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Iran postpones American woman's release

NASSER KARIMI

Associated Press Writer

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) —

Iran on Friday postponed the planned release of an American woman jailed along with two friends for more than a year, state media reported, dealing a blow to the hopes of three U.S. mothers who have pleaded for the trio's freedom.

Iranian officials had said that Sarah Shourd, who was detained with her friends near Iran's border with Iraq, would be released on Saturday. But the IRNA state news agency quoted the deputy chief of communication for the Iranian president's office, Mohammed Hassan Salihimaram, as saying that would not happen.

He said details of the decision would be announced later, but Tehran's chief prosecutor, Abbas Jafari Dolatabadi, blamed the fact that "judicial procedures have not been done," according to the semiofficial ILNA news agency.

It was the latest in a series of mixed messages from Tehran in a case that has deepened tensions between the U.S. and Iran, a relationship already strained over Washington's suspicions that Tehran is trying to manufacture nuclear weapons — something Iran denies.

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PURSuing PEACE

Construction crews work at site
of the World Trade Center, as
New York City prepares for the
9th anniversary of the Sept. 11th
terrorist attacks, Thursday, Sept.
9, 2010.

Associated Press

Fla. pastor's son says: No Quran burning on 9/11



GAINESVILLE, Fla. — The son of a pastor who suspended plans to burn copies of the Quran to mark the 9/11 anniversary says Islam's holiest text will not be torched at their Florida church Saturday. Luke Jones, the son of the Rev. Terry Jones, told reporters Friday that the event will not take place Saturday. But he says he can't speak about whether there will be a future event. The pastor called off the Quran-burning event after claiming he had commitments from Muslim leaders that a mosque would not be built near ground zero in New York. When that was met with denials, the minister said the burning event was suspended. The pastor says he will fly to New York to meet with the imam overseeing the mosque project there.

Islam controversies cast shadow over 9/11

NEW YORK — They will read the names, of course, the names of every victim who died in the Sept. 11 attacks. The bells will ring. And then that moment of unity will give way to division as activists hoist signs and march, some for and some against a planned mosque two blocks from ground zero.

This 9/11 is more political and contentious than the eight before it, with grieving family members on opposite sides of the mosque battle.

The debate became so heated that President Barack Obama felt the need to remind Americans: "We are not at war against Islam."

Still, there were signs Friday that religious tensions were abating, and that hushed tones would replace the harsh rhetoric that threatened to overshadow the commemoration of the terrorist attacks that killed nearly 3,000 people in New York, Washington and

Shanksville, Pa.

The son of an anti-Muslim pastor in Florida confirmed that his father would not — at least for now — burn copies of the Quran, a plan that inflamed much of the Muslim world and drew a stern rebuke from Obama.

Activists in New York insisted their intentions were peaceful. "It's a rally of remembrance for tens of thousands who lost loved ones that day," said Pamela Geller, a conservative blogger and host of the anti-mosque demonstration. "It's not a political event, it's a human rights event."

The site of the proposed mosque and Islamic center is already used for services, but it was padlocked Friday, closed until Sunday. Police guarded the block, and worshippers were redirected to a different prayer room 10 blocks away.

Some supporters planned a vigil near the proposed Islamic center's site Friday

evening instead of Saturday, saying they wanted to avoid entangling the mosque controversy and the Sept. 11 observance.

Organizers "believe that tomorrow is a day for mourning and remembrance," said Jennifer Carnig, a spokeswoman for the New York Civil Liberties Union, one of the vigil's sponsors.

For Terry Jones, pastor of a 50-member Pentecostal church in Florida, it was to be a day to burn the Quran. He backed off that threat after drawing angry protests across the Muslim world, a call from the secretary of defense and impassioned pleas to call it off from religious and political leaders and his own daughter.

"There will be no Quran burning tomorrow," Jones' 29-year old son, Luke Jones, told reporters outside his father's Gainesville church Friday. He added that he could not predict what might happen in the future.



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CA crews try to reach smoldering homes after blast



SAN BRUNO, Calif. – Fire crews tried to douse the remnants of an enormous blaze and account for the residents of dozens of homes Friday after a gas line ruptured and an explosion ripped through in a neighborhood near San Francisco, killing at least four people and likely more.

Television footage showed crews with dogs going house to house in the neighborhood Friday morning, and officials said there could be more casualties. Earlier Friday, officials said at least six people were killed before revising the official number to four.

At least 50 people were hurt, with three suffering critical burns in the explosion Thursday evening that left a giant crater and sent flames tearing through the middle-class neighborhood of 1960s-era homes in hills overlooking San Francisco, the bay and the airport.

Christina Veraflor, 41, of Napa, grew up in the neighborhood and said Friday morning that her 67-year-old mother's house was destroyed. Her mother, who had lived in the home for 40 years, was at the movies when the neighborhood erupted in flames.

"I woke up this morning and said, 'I'll go to my mom's and get this and get that.' But there is no mom's anymore," Veraflor said.

Pacific Gas and Electric Co. President Chris Johns said Friday morning a steel gas pipe ruptured about three feet underground just before 6:30 p.m. Thursday, but crews still haven't been able to determine the cause of the rupture or the ensuing blast because they can't get close enough. The damaged section was isolated and gas flow to the area has been stopped. The blaze was 75 percent contained by midmorning, fire officials said.

Veraflor said she smelled gas at the house during a visit six weeks ago but did not report the smell to the utility.

"You'd get a whiff of it, and it would dissipate," she said.

First Medal of Honor for a living Afghan war vet

By MICHAEL J. CRUMB

Associated Press Writer

DES MOINES, Iowa – A 25-year-old soldier from Iowa who exposed himself to enemy gunfire to try to save two fellow soldiers will become the first living service member from the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq to receive the Medal of Honor, the White House announced Friday.

President Barack Obama phoned Army Staff Sgt. Salvatore Giunta, on Thursday at the base in Italy where he's stationed to tell him he'd be receiving the nation's highest military honor, Giunta's father told The Associated Press. He will become the eighth service member to receive the Medal of Honor during operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. The seven previous medals were awarded posthumously.

"It's bittersweet for us," said Steven Giunta, of Hiawatha. "We're very proud of Sal. We can't mention that enough, but in this event, two other soldiers were killed and that weighs heavy on us. You get very happy and very proud and then you start dealing with the loss as well. You can't have one without the other."

Giunta was serving as a rifle team leader with Company B 2nd Battalion, 503rd Infantry Regiment when an insurgent ambush split his squad into two groups on Oct. 25, 2007, in the Korengal Valley in Afghanistan, the White House said in a news release.

Giunta went above and beyond the call of duty when he exposed himself to enemy fire to pull a fellow soldier back to cover. He engaged the enemy again when he saw two insurgents carrying away a wounded soldier, 22-year-old Sgt. Joshua C. Brennan, of McFarland, Wis. Giunta killed one insurgent and wounded the other before tending to Brennan, who died the next day.

"His courage and leadership while under extreme enemy fire were integral to his platoon's ability to defeat an enemy ambush and recover a fellow American soldier from enemy hands," the White House said.

Giunta, who enlisted in the Army shortly after graduating from Kennedy High School in Cedar Rapids, is now stationed in Italy with the Battle Company of the 173rd Airborne Brigade. He was in his second tour of duty in Afghanistan at the time of the ambush.



Giunta, who was previously awarded a Bronze Star and Purple Heart, among other medals, called his parents after hearing from the president, his father said.

"He was very honored to talk to the president but he's very reserved about it," Steven Giunta said. "It's not something he's comfortable with, the event or the Medal of Honor.

Steven Giunta said his son is humbled because he believes he was just doing what he was supposed to be doing.

"He mentions every other soldier would have done the same thing. It kind of rocks his world that he's being awarded the Medal of Honor for something each and every one of them would have done. He's very aware of that."

"What a privilege and honor it is and what the men have done over the years to receive it, the feat, the above and beyond portion of it, it's amazing to me," Steven Giunta said.

Giunta will be awarded his medal at a White House ceremony at a date yet to be determined. The President will present the Medal of Honor posthumously to Staff Sgt. Robert Miller in a White House ceremony on Oct. 6.

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First Person: The shared stories of 9/11

Wake up. The World Trade Center is gone.”

That’s how Sept. 11, 2001, started for Gwen Navarrete. And maybe for you, too.

The shared nature of the tragedy both broke and — paradoxically — strengthened the heart of a nation.

So we’ve asked people like you to share again, nine years later, in a collaboration between Yahoo! News and Associated Content: share what they went through and what they learned (or didn’t) from that terrible time. “Our day of infamy,” Melissa Danysh calls it. She’s just one of the voices we heard from.

This is what they said.

An aid worker has to step back. Not all of the people affected by the Sept. 11 attacks were in New York and D.C. In Norfolk, Va., where I worked for the American Red Cross, the local schools shut down and children were sent home. Two hours after Flight 77 crashed into the Pentagon, I answered a call from a 12-year-old girl during my shift.

Her voice shook with fear. Sniffles came through the line and my own eyes misted. Both of her parents worked at the Pentagon. She couldn’t reach them.

When the call ended, I shared her information with the volunteers answering the phones. I waited at the office for her call until I was ordered home to rest. At 5 a.m. I returned to find myself being hugged by two volunteers, as they told me the girl’s mother called. She and her husband had escaped the disaster without injury.

For those brief seconds, there was joy in hell.

The bond forged during a disaster between relief workers is different from any other type of friendship. Back then, I watched and prayed for safe journeys as my friends headed out to help. When most Americans struggled to find something useful to do, we knew what was needed and we did it.

It’s easy to burn out when doing volunteer work, especially in



disaster services. Often, people remember to complain but forget to express their gratitude. I never burned out, but I did grow to understand that my future meant deciding between my wants and my family’s needs. ...Read J.S. Nichols’ whole story [The account above and all the others that appear here are edited excerpts.]

A Muslim high-schooler’s bewilderment

I was a senior in high school. I remember my teacher immediately turned on the television. The first thing I saw was the media showing a group of Muslims celebrating the attacks. I got a sick feeling in my stomach and I began to cry. I am an American Muslim. The terrorists who called themselves “Muslims” took responsibility for the attacks and because of that, my life has changed ever since.

I was born and raised in the small town of Kingston, Pa. There, little or nothing was known about Islam. My high-school principal did not know much about Islam -- only that he had three Muslim senior girls in the school who wore head scarves. Before 9/11, we were accepted by all in our school. Students

were interested in learning about Islam and accepted our traditions and religion. However, with 9/11, I saw an extreme change.

It started with the day of the attacks. My principal gathered me and the other two Muslim girls and told us to go into the library for our own safety. I was very scared. I didn’t do anything wrong and did not understand why I would be targeted. I am American, I thought, and I am affected by the attacks as well.

I used to have a bumper sticker on the back of my little white Honda Civic with the sign of Islam (a crescent and star) stating that “I Love Islam.” When I got home from school on Sept. 11, my mom was waiting outside and told me to get rid of the sticker. Since the attacks, I have experienced much harassment. While I walk down the street, I’ve heard people scream out their windows for me to go back to where I came from. On Memorial Day this year, I was walking my son when a man screamed those exact words from his car. I fear that my child will have to grow up with this prejudice simply because of one tragic day in America. ... Read M. Mahmoud’s whole story A warrior’s internal struggle

From the start of Operation Enduring Freedom in October 2001 to the time I separated from the military in 2007, I would ultimately spend nearly three years in Iraq, Afghanistan, Qatar and Saudi Arabia to help to execute the war on terror.

Like everyone else, I struggled with hate and fear as we were plunged into war. While I think I was able to ultimately turn away from those more corrosive emotions, I struggled with them for years.

When al-Qaida terrorists first attacked the World Trade Center, I was a young lieutenant serving on a base in the Middle East, preparing to go on shift at the Watch (part of the effort monitoring Iraq’s compliance with the United Nations’ Southern No Fly Zone). While my teammates and I ate in the dining facility, the images of smoke coming out of the first tower started broadcasting across the large-screen TVs.

The next few hours are still vivid in my memory. At once, dozens of soldiers, sailors and airmen leaped up and charged out of the facility. We jumped into our vehicle and raced to the Watch. Upon arriving, we were greeted with a human tempest as men

and women surged throughout the building, desperately trying to assess the attacks. While we stood there getting our bearings, a captain called out to us: “They hit the Pentagon!” and then he disappeared into the maelstrom. I bolted to my station to join the new war. ... Read W.E. Linde’s whole story

For a pilot’s family, ‘a strange sort of guilt’

As the reports unfolded, my husband, a pilot for American Airlines since 1991, and I tried to sift through the jumble of facts and theories pouring from various networks. There was a sense of disbelief in the house, and our dog paced between us in an effort to offer comfort. As information became clearer, we were sickened by the knowledge of the loss of an American Airline airplane in this tragedy, stunned to hear of another hitting the Pentagon. Added to our agony was the loss of United Airlines’ two jets; the death of so many crew members and passengers in such a short period of time was beyond comprehension. What was happening to our world?

In the past few years, our life has returned to normal -- or, rather, the “new” normal. Gone are the days when aviation travel was considered an adventure, replaced by long lines at the more vigilant and intrusive security check-points and passengers looking at fellow travelers with distrust. Once my husband’s passion, flying is now a grueling and difficult job filled with tension and added layers of security and responsibility.

Despite the financial and work difficulties, the hardest thing to face has been our feeling of guilt. Why wasn’t Mark in the cockpit? Could he have changed anything? Probably not, but the question still lingers as my husband and I share a form of survivor’s guilt with other airline employees and their families. It is a strange sort of guilt. ... Read Susan Ranstead’s whole story 30 miles from Afghanistan

Pa. mosque opens peacefully near synagogue, church

BERWYN, Pa. – A new mosque recently opened in this well-to-do suburb of Philadelphia, but not many people noticed. That was fine with leaders of the Islamic Society of Greater Valley Forge. Amid a tense national climate for U.S. Muslims, they did not seek publicity for the happy occasion, only continued peace with their neighbors: a Jewish synagogue next door and Baptist church across the street.

The Muslims' good relations with other faiths and the town at large offers a stark contrast to American communities torn by anti-Islamic acts, including arson at the site of a planned mosque in Tennessee and a threatened Quran burning in Florida.

In New York, debate rages over a planned Islamic center and mosque near ground zero. And everywhere tensions are heightened because Friday's joyous Muslim celebration of Eid al-Fitr falls a day before the somber ninth anniversary of 9/11. But in Tredyffrin Township, about 20 miles northwest of Philadelphia, community members say a tradition of religious tolerance, combined with an educated population and small-town friendliness, have yielded years of harmonious coexistence.

"We have much more in common than not in common," mosque president Mohammad Aziz said. "We are blessed with very good neighbors." Township officials conceded some trepidation among residents when the Islamic Society sought construction permits in 2008. The growing Sunni group planned to build on land behind the small house it had used as a mosque since 1994. Most concerns were standard zoning issues like parking, traffic and stormwater runoff. But the concept of a mosque was jarring to some, despite Muslims having long worshipped at the site, said Judy DiFilippo, a township supervisor for 20 years until her retirement in January.

"It was something brand new to the community. Even though they were using an existing building, it wasn't an obvious mosque," DiFilippo said.

The plans were approved; construction and fundraising began in earnest, capped by the mosque opening on June 5. DiFilippo said there have been no problems, which she attributed to an "underlying theme of tolerance that just comes with this community." Yossi Kaplan, a Lubavitch rabbi at Chabad Jewish Center next door, said he was approached by people seeking his opposition to the project — but waved them off. The two faiths were enjoying solid relations, to the point

where they shared parking lots and Muslims helped with tasks that Jews cannot perform on the Sabbath. The rabbi expected nothing less from his neighbors, regardless of religion. This is America, Kaplan said, and this is how it's supposed to be.

"We're just good friends. We're really good neighbors," he said. "There's never been any issues." The United States has seen a 58 percent increase in the number of mosques over the past decade, from 1,200 to roughly 1,900, according to Ihsan Bagby, a professor of Islamic studies at the University of Kentucky and a researcher on American mosques.

Yet many U.S. mosques are repurposed existing buildings, retrofitted to accommodate ritual washing areas and separate entrances for men and women. Sometimes they require odd configurations for prayer so worshippers can face Mecca.

Thus the new \$1.5 million mosque in Tredyffrin is truly an American Dream for Aziz. Since joining the congregation in 1998, he said, it has more than doubled in size as technology professionals arrived in the area from India and Pakistan.

The mosque has a prayer hall, library, multipurpose room, bathrooms with washing areas, WiFi and — most important — more space for the 60 or so families who worship there.

Except for dome-shaped accents around the vertical windows, it looks more like a community center than a house of worship. There are no minarets and no dome — cost-conscious omissions that Aziz said should help it blend in and attract younger generations.

"American mosques should take their own form ... (and) be appealing and open to people, not just Muslims," said Aziz, 57. "It is built for my children and my children's children."



Last week, the chapter of the American-Islamic Council on Relations sponsored an event for

community members to tour the mosque, learn about the faith, observe evening prayers and share dinner.

"If you get to know your neighbors, you are less inclined to be fearful of them," CAIR-PA Executive Director Moein Khawaja said.

About 50 people came, including the Rev. John Loring, pastor of the Baptist Church in the Great Valley, just across the street. The congregation was founded in 1711 by Welsh immigrants seeking freedom to worship in Pennsylvania, then a colony that emphasized its welcome to settlers of all faiths.

"Respect for all religions is an important part of who we are," Loring said. Sally Bovais, 68, of Phoenixville, came with about 10 members of her nearby Presbyterian church. She said such events were important "to put a face to Muslim people."

"The stereotype is really very dangerous," Bovais said. "They espouse love and peace, and raise families and are involved in their faith. That's part of the thread of our nation."



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U.S. troops brave grenade attacks in key Afghan town

TODD PITMAN

Associated Press Writer

SENJERAY, Afghanistan (AP) — Pfc. Sean Provenzano saw it whiz by out of the corner of his eye: a dark object hurled from a rooftop as he patrolled the medieval maze of alleyways in this fort-like walled village at the center of America's Afghan surge.

It bounced off his M-4 Carbine's gun-sight and landed in the dirt a few yards away. At first he mistook it for a rock — kids here often throw them at U.S. troops. But when it rose up and began spinning like a top, he realized it was something far more dangerous.

"GRENADÉ!!!" the 25-year-old screamed, diving to the ground as the explosion sprayed a deadly burst of shrapnel across the street.

Through a cloud of black smoke and brown dust, Provenzano heard a colleague calling his name. He was alive, unscathed, and incredibly, so was everyone else.

U.S. forces deployed to this village in southern Afghanistan's Kandahar province as part of President Barack Obama's troop surge



In this photo taken on Sept. 7, 2010, soldiers from the U.S. 101st Airborne Division's 1st Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment make a radio call as troops search a home in Senjeray, Kandahar province, Afghanistan.

Associated Press

say they came with the noblest intentions: to build up government and security forces, protect the population, make this a safer place. But after a relentless spate of grenade attacks — tossed anonymously over walls and down from rooftops at soldiers

patrolling the labyrinthine town — they now keep their distance from the people they're trying to protect. The change of heart — nine years after the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks that triggered the war — underscores the profound challenges American

forces face in securing this insurgent stronghold, where sympathy for the Taliban runs high and the radical Islamist movement was born in 1994. NATO commanders say a major operation will be launched this month here in Zhari district to clear

guerrilla fighters who use the cover of grape vineyards and pomegranate orchards to stage attacks.

"When we first came here, we were giving candy away and water bottles. But as soon as we saw a little kid throw a grenade over the wall, that was it, we don't give 'em anything anymore," said Provenzano, of the 101st Airborne Division's 1st Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment.

"We make sure they keep their distance," he said of the population. "You keep 'em away from you as long as you can, because it's only a matter of time before someone gets hurt."

U.S. Defense Secretary Robert Gates visited the joint Afghan-U.S. outpost at Senjeray last week and said he was "encouraged" by signs of progress. But Zhari remains a battlefield where firefights erupt daily. The lush green fields fed by the Arghandab river, just south of the village, are virtual no-go zones controlled by Taliban fighters, and progress in building local governance is painfully slow. On Wednesday, insurgents ambushed a convoy carrying district chief Kareem Jan, killing one of his guards and getting close enough to steal one of his vehicles. The midday attack on Highway 1 was the third attempt on his life since he assumed office in late May.

Grenade assaults against U.S. forces occur mostly when they move into walled Senjeray. They began in earnest in June, and "a significant amount" of troops have been wounded but none killed, said Capt. Nick Stout, a 27-year-old U.S. company commander from Lake Orion, Michigan.

Soldiers say the assaults are aimed at demoralizing or disrupting their operations. Stout said the Taliban or their sympathizers are "trying everything they can to keep us out."

"But you have to continue to get out there, you have to keep them at bay," Stout said. Because "if we don't go in, things could get a lot worse."

Japan missing more than 230K listed centenarians

MARI YAMAGUCHI

Associated Press Writer

TOKYO (AP) — More than 230,000 Japanese citizens listed in government records as at least 100 years old can't be found and may have died long ago, according to a government survey.

About 77,000 of them would be at least 120, and 884 people would be 150 or older, the review of records found. The Justice Ministry ordered the count last month after several reports about how elderly people are falling through the cracks in Japan as its population ages rapidly and family ties weaken.

In all, the survey of family registration records nationwide found that 234,354 centenarians were still listed as alive, but their whereabouts were unknown, the ministry said Friday.

Because listings of people over 120 are almost certainly the result of lax bookkeeping, the ministry instructed local offices to attach a note to those records saying the people were unaccounted for, a ministry official said.

A ministry official said many of the missing people had probably died, lost touch with relatives or moved overseas. The official spoke on condition of anonymity, citing ministry policy. In late July, police discovered that Sogen Kato, who would have been 111 and was thought to be Tokyo's oldest

man, had actually been dead for 32 years and his decayed body was still lying in his home.

Police have arrested his granddaughter for suspected abandonment and pension fraud.

That case and other revelations of scamming relatives and isolated and forgotten elderly people led to closer scrutiny ahead of the Health Ministry's annual report on centenarians. Last year's report said Japan had 40,399 people aged 100 or older with known addresses.

An official at the Health Ministry's statistics bureau said Friday's survey does not change Japan's status as a fast-aging nation because life expectancy calculations are not based on family registration records.

The share of the population aged 65 and older hit a record high of 22.7 percent last year, while young people aged 14 or younger fell to 13.3 percent — the lowest among 27 countries with populations of more than 40 million. Japanese women can expect to live 86 years, the longest in the world, and men nearly 80. The graying of Japanese society and its low birth rate have brought an increasing number of social problems, strained government services and pension programs, and raised worries about expected labor shortages in the near future.

Colombian reporter denies links to leftist rebels

JORGE RUEDA
Associated Press Writer
CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — A Colombian reporter accused of conspiring with leftist rebels denied the allegations Friday, saying his contacts with the guerrillas were purely for his journalistic work.

William Parra said in an interview with The Associated Press in Venezuela, where he lives, that police and military in his home country have viewed him as an enemy ever since he refused to lead them to a camp where he interviewed a leader of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC.

"I don't have anything to hide. My closeness to the guerrillas was exclusively out of journalistic interest," Parra told the AP. "I never

passed a line beyond that."

A Colombian court issued a warrant for Parra's arrest Monday. Prosecutors have accused him of financing terrorist activities and sedition. But on Friday, prosecutor Ricardo Bejarano said he was removed from the case.

Parra called that a positive step.

"It shows they are in fact recognizing all of the highhandedness," he said.

He said Colombian authorities should also allow him access to any evidence they believe they have against him related to contacts with the FARC.

Bejarano has said prosecutors have e-mails that Parra exchanged with Raul Reyes, a rebel commander killed in 2008, and that in one, Reyes asks Parra to buy missiles in



the Middle East.

Parra denied meeting with anyone to discuss weapons for the FARC. "When they show me that evidence, I'm willing to go to jail," he said.

Parra was press secretary for

then-Colombian President Ernesto Samper in the 1990s and has recently worked with Telesur, the regional TV network backed by Venezuela's leftist government. He said he has

worked independently since leaving Telesur in 2008.

Parra has lived for several years in Venezuela, where he obtained refugee status saying he faced political persecution in Colombia.

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25 slain in Mexican city; deadliest day in 2 years

OLIVIA TORRES,
Associated Press Writer
CIUDAD JUAREZ, Mexico
(AP) — Gunmen killed 25 people in a series of drug-gang attacks in Ciudad Juarez, marking the deadliest day in more than two years for the Mexican border city, authorities said Friday.

Thursday's toll included 15 people killed when attackers stormed four homes in three hours, said Arturo Sandoval, a spokesman for the Attorney General's Office of Chihuahua state, where Ciudad Juarez is located.

In the worst of those attacks, gunmen burst into a house and killed two young men — then killed four others for being witnesses.

Sandoval said it was the highest single-day murder toll in the city across from



A woman cries after learning that her son was killed as she stands at the crime scene in the northern border city of Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, Thursday Sept. 9, 2010. Ciudad Juarez has become one of Mexico's deadliest cities as drug gangs continue to battle for control of smuggling routes. Associated Press

El Paso, Texas, since March 2008. He did not give more details of how many died back then, or say what day.

Two graffiti message appeared in Ciudad Juarez threatening

Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman, the fugitive head of the Sinaloa drug cartel.

"You are killing our sons. You already did, and now we are going to kill your families,"

one sign read.

Ciudad Juarez, with a population of 1.3 million, has become one of the world's most dangerous cities amid a turf war between the Sinaloa and Juarez cartels.

Violence has continued unabated despite the deployment of thousands of soldiers to the city this year.

Federal police, including a special investigative unit, later took over security in the city as part of a new strategy announced by President Felipe Calderon.

More than 2,100 people have been killed this year in Ciudad Juarez, putting the city on pace to surpass its previous high of 2,700, set last year.

Daily homicide tolls routinely reach double digits in Juarez; 24 people were killed Aug. 15.

Also Friday, Sandoval

confirmed that a U.S. resident kidnapped in Ciudad Juarez last month was found dead.

Saul de la Rosa, 27, was abducted along with two other people when he crossed into Ciudad Juarez on Aug. 28.

All three bodies were found Sept. 2, and Sandoval said documents found on De la Rosa indicated he was a U.S. resident.

Elsewhere in Mexico, at least five people were killed in the southern Pacific coast state of Guerrero, where various cartels are also fighting for territory, state police reported.

One body was found floating in the ocean in a beach town just north of the resort city of Acapulco, his hands and feet bound.

In central Morelos state, a prison riot left one inmate dead and eight wounded.

Iran postpones

Continued from front page

Shourd and two friends, Shane Bauer and Josh Fattal, were arrested along the Iran-Iraq border in July 2009, and Tehran has accused them of illegally crossing the border and spying.

Their families say they were hiking in Iraq's scenic north and that if they crossed the border, they did so unwittingly.

The U.S. State Department and relatives said they had no immediate information about the reports.

The announcement of the

delay came hours after state media reported that President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad had personally intervened to secure Shourd's release as an act of clemency in part because of the "special viewpoint of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the dignity of women."

Patrick Clawson, deputy director at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, said the last-minute quarrels over Shourd's release highlight the internal fissures in Iran's power structure between Ahmadinejad

and others such as the prosecutor who could see him overreaching his authority.

"There are all kinds of internal pressures," he said.

"A case like this shows there are various factions at play."

A judicial official close to the prosecutor's office said that Dolatabadi believes the release is unacceptable because Shourd should first stand before the court and then the amnesty will be granted.

The official spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitive nature of the issue.

Shourd's name was not among the official list of prisoners freed at the end of the Islamic holy month of Ramadan, suggesting that prosecutors want the Americans to first face trial before any kind of pardon or clemency is considered.

Typically, inmates released during Ramadan have already been convicted.

In some recent cases of high-profile foreigners jailed and released in Iran, authorities have first conducted trials and issued sentences.

In May, a French academic, Clotilde Reiss, was freed after her 10-year sentence on espionage-related charges was commuted.

American freelance journalist Roxana



Saberi was convicted of spying before being released in May 2009.

Canadian-Iranian journalist Maziar Bahari of Newsweek was freed on \$300,000 bail in October 2009 after nearly four months detention following the crackdown after the disputed presidential election.

He was later sentenced in absentia to more than 13 years in prison and 50 lashes.

In 2007, Iran released 15 British sailors without a trial after being held for nearly two weeks for allegedly crossing into Iran along its river border with Iraq.

Some were paraded on television to deliver confessions for trespassing.

The delay in Shourd's release is sure to further fuel concerns over her health, which her family has said is

deteriorating.

The 31-year-old has been held in solitary confinement, and her mother has said she's been denied treatment for serious health problems, including a breast lump and precancerous cervical cells.

Shourd's planned release had provided a long-sought sign of hope to the Americans' families, who have been pleading with Iranian officials to free their children since their arrest.

Now, they are once again left wondering what is going to happen.

"We don't know anything," said Samantha Topping, a New York publicist working with the families. She said the families knew only what they were hearing from media about a delayed release.

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Third drill to the rescue for Chile's trapped miners

MAURICIO MUNOZ
Associated Press Writer
SAN JOSE MINE, Chile (AP) — Chile is sparing no expense to rescue its 33 trapped miners, mounting three separate drilling efforts to carve escape tunnels through nearly a half-mile of solid rock and collapsed mine shafts. The latest — an oil-well drill so big it takes 40 trucks to carry it — began arriving Friday. The drill will be nearly 150 feet tall when assembled at the gold and copper mine where the main shaft collapsed Aug. 5. Its huge size has required rescuers to level rocks and lay a concrete platform over an area nearly the size of a football field on the hilltop, where only a dozen trucks at a time have room to unload their cargo. Relatives of the miners — now stuck underground for 36 days — applauded the caravan's arrival, waving Chilean flags as the trucks rolled past their tents, known as "Camp Hope." The government also has established a 24/7 presence at the mine, providing families with food, shelter and support in the hot days and frigid nights of their Atacama desert vigil.

The oil drill is the government's Plan C, joining

two mining-industry drills that have been carving other escape holes since last week. Just building its platform is taking two weeks.

Used by the country's state oil company in northern Chile, it drills the fastest of the three, and is capable of reaching the miners in 45 days after it becomes operational. But its power also increases the risk of rockfalls, so rescuers plan to aim it for the very bottom of the mine, some distance away from the other two efforts, which are aimed closer to the miners' refuge.

Meanwhile, Plan B suffered setbacks when the second drill struck an iron support beam for a mine shaft at 880 feet, destroying a drill bit. Engineers have had to lower magnets down the shaft to recover the broken metal, said a government official who insisting on speaking anonymously because she was not authorized to talk with the news media.

A replacement drill part was rushed from the United States, and Andre Sougarret, a Codelco mining company engineer overseeing the effort, estimated that it would be operating by late Friday.

At roughly \$2,000 a yard, the three drilling efforts alone



A parts of a newly arrived drill, center, to be used in the rescue operation of trapped miners is seen at the San Jose mine in Copiapo, Chile, Friday, Sept. 10, 2010. Thirty-three miners have been trapped deep underground in the copper and gold mine since it collapsed on Aug. 5.
Associated Press

could cost an estimated \$4.2 million or more, and the overall rescue effort will be much more costly once all the other government efforts to support the miners are included.

For now, the costs are largely being borne by the state-owned Codelco copper company and Enap oil company, as well as private firms: the La Escondida and Ines de Collahuasi copper companies,

and drilling companies and their operators.

It remains to be seen if the government will compensate these firms, and the presidency has avoided making any public cost estimates. Both Finance Minister Felipe Larraín and Mining Minister Laurence Golborne have said that no cost evaluations have been conducted.

Diego Hernandez, Codelco's president, said that "it's not

the time" to estimate costs, adding that the company's only concern now is getting the miners out as soon as possible.

Codelco can afford the rescue in any case. On Friday, it reported earnings of \$2.5 billion in the first half of 2010 thanks to higher global copper prices. That was about 3½ times its profit during the same period last year.

Priest sex abuse linked to 13 suicides in Belgium

RAF CASERT

Associated Press Writer

BRUSSELS (AP) — Hundreds of sex abuse victims have come forward in Belgium with harrowing accounts of molestation by Catholic clergy that reportedly led to at least 13 suicides and affected children as young as two, a special commission said Friday.

Professor Peter Adriaenssens, chairman of the commission, said the abuse in Belgium may have been even more rampant than the 200-page report suggests.

"Reality is worse than what we present here today because not everyone shares such things automatically in a first contact with the commission," he told reporters.

Adriaenssens, a child psychiatrist who has worked with trauma victims for 23 years, said nothing had prepared him for the stories of abuse that blighted the lives of victims.

"We don't just talk about touching. We are talking about oral and anal abuse, forced masturbation and mutual masturbation. We talk about people who have gone through serious abuse," Adriaenssens said.

Most of the abuse happened during the 1960s and 1970s, he said.

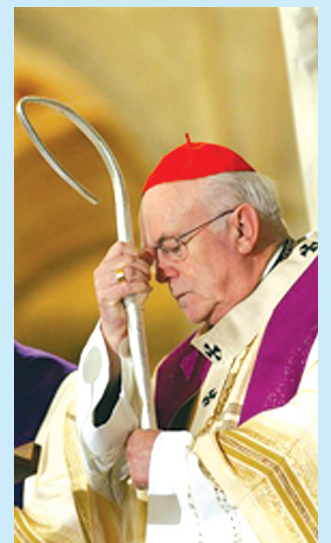
The Roman Catholic Church in Belgium experienced the findings as "a body blow," Adriaenssens said.

Belgian Archbishop Andre-Joseph Leonard said he would react on Monday to the report. The Vatican had no immediate comment.

But Tournai Bishop Guy Harpigny, who deals with the issue for the church, praised Adriaenssens's work and told VRT television that "now, the time has come to listen to the victims."

The report's findings are the latest embarrassment for Belgium's Catholic Church, which is still reeling after the April resignation of Bruges Bishop Roger Vangheluwe, who admitted to having sexually abused a nephew for years when he was a priest and bishop.

Friday's report said 507 witnesses came forward with stories of molestation at the hands of clergy over the past decades. It says those abused included children who were two, four, five and six years old.

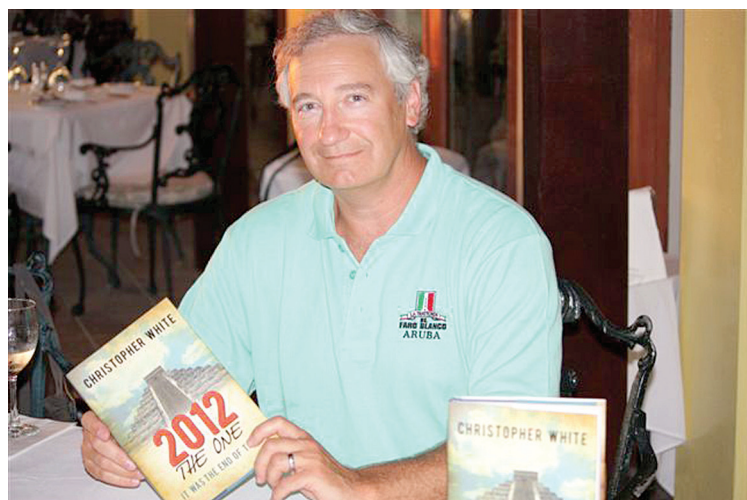


File - In this Sunday, April 3, 2005 file photo Belgian Cardinal Godfried Danneels leans on his staff while leading a memorial Mass for Pope John Paul II, at the St. Michael church in Brussels.

Associated Press



Author Christopher White signs books at CILO



ORANJESTAD - William Steely MD, the author of the recently published book, 2012 The One, It Was The End Of Times, signed books at CILO, Renaissance Marketplace, on Friday, and was well received by the many midday lunch-goers.

The author was also enthusiastically welcomed at Trattoria El Faro Blanco where Arthur and Betty orchestrated a small wine & cheese reception in his honor. While on the island Steely was also interviewed by radio personality Stanley Arends and TV trainer Belkis Moreau.

Steely who penned the book under the name Christopher White, reports it is his first science fiction/thriller, and it takes place in part in Aruba. The book borrows the Mayan prophecies of the End of Times in the year 2012 and combines it with a new reality in which in the wake of the destruction the possibility of eternal youth, regeneration and rejuvenation unfolds, with the protagonists building their headquarters just below the California lighthouse, in Aruba.

Dr. Steely based his writings on his many fields of interest, medicine, futurism, genetics, history and archeology, and peppered the book with familiar locations such as the Crystal Casino, the Sunset Grille, the Flying Fishbone and Madame Jeanette, which weave into the fantastic narrative, as a colorful and exotic backdrop.

The Steelys have visited Aruba many times in the past and view the island as paradise, which is by the



way the book sequel's name, Eden Redux, meaning Eden revisited.

The Steelys both hail from Nashville, Tennessee, and since they are obviously interested in music, the book is also sprinkled with musical reference. William, an MD by profession and Barbra, a nurse in real life, have a strong interest in music and

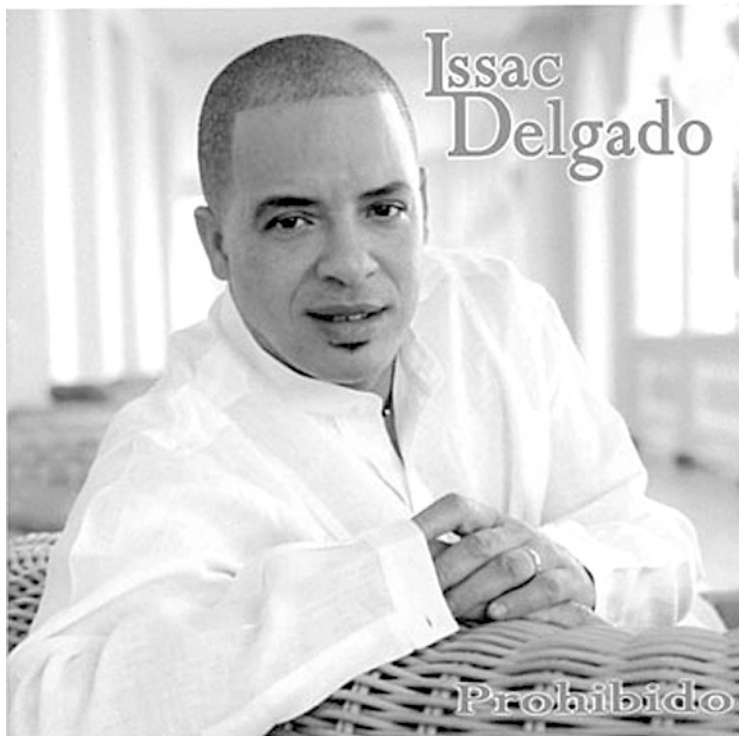
play in their own band.

To find out more about the book, visit www.2012theone.com; It is available for sale via Amazon.com and Barnes & Noble. The Steelys are staying on vacation at the Radisson Aruba Resort Casino & Spa where Steely also signed books during the Manager's Cocktail party on Tuesday.



Issac Delgado, Tizer, Marcus Millar and more

4th Caribbean Sea Jazz Festival offers world-class line-up



ORANJESTAD - The fourth Caribbean Sea Jazz Festival will take place on October 8 and 9, with a warm-up preceding the festival. Held at Cas di Cultura, as is customary, the event has grown to full adulthood through the years. This means that world-class performers can be attracted to the event and thus the 2010 edition will be filled with the names of enormously talented artists. Names like Issac Delgado, the salsa virtuoso, Tizer featuring Karen Briggs, Marcus Miller, Swing Design, Red Fulka with Roel Calister will be the festival's headliners without contest, but Cosy Cotton with singer Grana Louise is sure to attract a wide audience as well. Cosy Cotton is performing on Aruba for the third year now and we can tell you: it makes the hearts of local and visiting blues fans beat faster. This band is truly something else!

But the Caribbean Sea Jazz Festival would not be complete without the considerable talent of local bands like Sazon Cubano, Mystical Connection, Soul Cowboy, the Muziekschool Band, TimbAche, Off Shore, Serghio Jansen, Ivan Jansen

and Data Panik, which is now getting international recognition.

All of the above will get a place in the spotlight on one of the stages at the Plaza di Cultura and they will surely impress audiences during the two festival days.

The weekend of the 8th and 9th October will furthermore be dunked in art in its widest sense of the word: paintings, installations, drawings, poetry, theater and mime belong to the list of performances that can be expected. To make the festival complete there will be a terrific food court as well as vendors.

As the organizers, The Entertainment Group, are dotting the i's and crossing the t's to get everything shipshape and ready for two days of explosive excellent music, the excitement is building within Aruba's jazz and music fans. They are greatly looking forward to the Caribbean Jazz Festival 2010. It promises to be super fantastic once again.

For more information on the Caribbean Sea Jazz Festival, please visit: <http://www.caribbeanseajazz.com>





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On October 8th & 9th, 2010

Dutch Cosy Cotton blues band guest of the Caribbean Sea Jazz Festival

Oranjestad -- One of last year's numerous top acts of the Caribbean Sea Jazz Festival was undoubtedly the Cosy Cotton blues band. An ecstatic audience kept on cheering them after their spectacular performance on the main stage in front of Cas di Cultura's entrance. And guess what: they are back with more blues and for more applause, for this year's edition of the festival.

The four members of the Cosy Cotton blues band are thrilled that internationally acclaimed singer, songwriter and music producer Grana Louise will be belting out her songs together with them again. Alexander van Merten (drums), Boudy Loogman (bass guitar) and Bert Devies (guitar) are the original members of the 1980s band, which used to feature singer Wendy Sheridan. Now, more



than 26 years later three of the band's musicians got together for a blues revival show in Holland and the bug bit again! Together with Hammond

organ and piano player Joeko Dietrich they form once again the Cosy Cotton blues band. Rave reviews accompany the performances of the group,

which takes its audience on a musical trip through the southern states of America, culminating in the cotton fields of Louisiana.

The story of Cosy Cotton goes back to 1986 when the band played at blues and jazz festivals, first as a warm-up act, but later playing with big names like BB King, Ray Charles, Robert Cray, the Blues Brothers and Chaka Kahn. The CD that was recorded was hugely successful as well. But in 1993 the members of Cosy Cotton decided to venture out into the real world, starting businesses and getting families of their own and the band broke up. Two years ago, however, Bert, Boudy and Alexander got together again and the magic was back full blast to the joy of the former group's faithful fans. Together with singer Grana Louise and her powerful, awesome voice Cosy Cotton is soaring once again. Welcome to the Caribbean Sea Jazz Festival 2010, Cosy Cotton!

Esha celebrates birthday at Casa Tua Barcelona



ORANJESTAD -- Recently, 9-year old Esha celebrated her birthday with her family and friends at Casa tua Barcelona. The kids enjoyed the fabulous entertainment of the PARTY ANIMALS. The entire restaurant was decorated with colorful balloons and everyone enjoyed the most famous "best brick oven" pizza on the island with tapas and other treats. Esha's Mother Anna was the host of the party and the staff of Casa Tua Barcelona made sure that everyone had the best time ever!

Casa Tua Barcelona is a great place to host an event or just enjoy an intimate lunch or dinner. Located in the heart of Downtown Oranjestad on the second floor of the Aventura Mall, there couldn't be a better location.



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RED FULKA @ 2010 Sea Jazz Festival

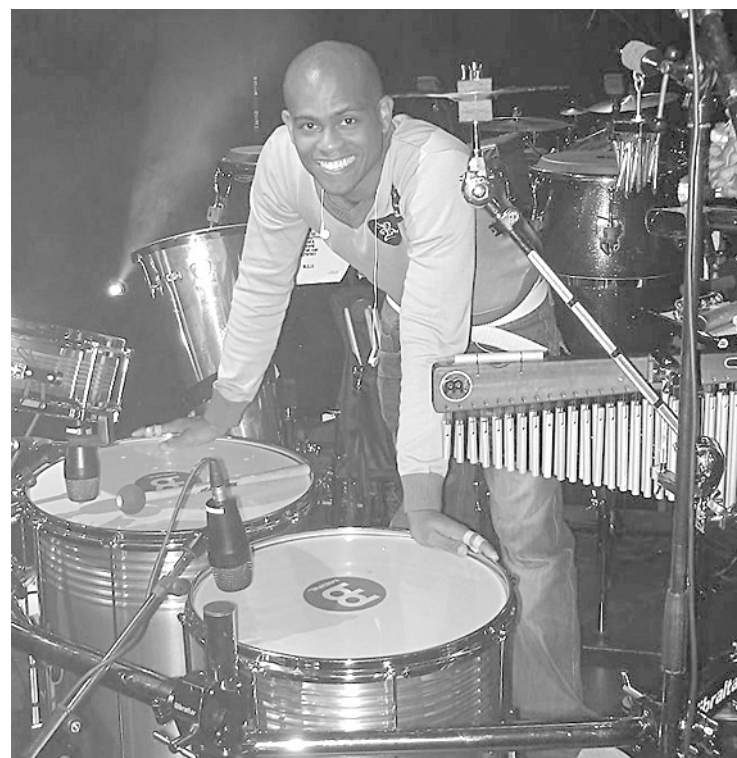
Balearic - heart-warming – tribal – Dance – Electro meets Acoustic



ORANJESTAD -- Sax & Flute player Praful and DJ Kareem Raihani met a few years ago and discovered a magical musical connection which called for deeper exploration. They then worked and performed together under different banners, such as Praful Sound System,

until in 2009 they decided to sail under the flag RED FULKA. As such they have so far released two 10inch (Moai Sunset & Crazy Meera) on the new Dutch label Elevator People – the music has been highly praised by the international balearic & beyond DJ community. They have also

made remixes together, like the OM TARE Red Fulka Remix for Mantra singer Deva Premal. Currently, when not out on the road, they are working on finishing their first full album - Praful's extraordinary musical talents and Kareem's fine sense for booty-shaking (sideways!) grooves. They seem to merge and blend more with each other as new tracks evolve and the already unmistakable Red Fulka sound takes shape. Red Fulka LIVE rocks dance floors with deep grooving, tribal ethno-house "that touches the soul and moves the waistline ...". Kareem works also alone as a DJ, spinning his eclectic heart-warming mix of global beat fusion, but has also a history of working with musicians, producing dance tracks and remixing other artists. His first solo release, 'Hi-Tech Roots', a dynamic fusion of raw tumbling beats mixed down with inspirational musicians and vocalists around the world, will be released in April 2010.



Praful is a pioneer in melting Jazz, world music and dance styles, which is captured on his 5 solo albums. One Day Deep and Pyramid in your Backyard brought him international success, top 10 US- Billboard

Chart notations and a #1 radio hit in the USA. He has worked with many artists and DJs and performs all over the world – he currently tours regularly with Australian Earth-Chantress Perquois.

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Tuscany Residence Aruba gearing up for construction



PALM BEACH -- While the world is recovering from the recent economic decline, Aruba's real estate market continues to offer great investment opportunities to those prepared to take the plunge, and go ahead and live their dreams.

One of the newest, most exciting projects is Tuscany Residence Aruba, which recently captured headlines as it announced construction of a low-density gated community just across the island's much-anticipated Ritz Carlton, now under construction.



The sizeable property destined to become Tuscany Residence Aruba was just recently razed and is presently being nicely fenced in preparation for a model-home construction, scheduled to start in November, to conclude in the summer of 2011.

Tuscany Residence Aruba is the initiative of a Dutch group of investors, Esprit Project Development, in collaboration with the local Toscana Development NV.

The partnership produced an impressive design for a master-planned community with free-standing homes,

stylish condos and tasteful townhouses sharing upscale, fully landscaped community pools and tropical gardens, a fitness center, a chic clubhouse, a gourmet restaurant, bar and ample parking, in a secure, exclusive, family friendly enclave.

Director of Sales Erick Munnikhuis is especially proud of the new technology which will be introduced here for the first time at Tuscany Residence Aruba. All homes, he explains, will be equipped with superb, digitally controlled, energy efficient air-conditioning units.

Tuscany Residence Aruba will keep its energy consumption down by virtue of the double glazing on its glass windows and doors, and further keep the temperatures low via misting systems, installed on all terraces. The complex will be keyless, Munnikhuis states, relying on a secure, smart, entry system. And all materials used in building construction and interior decor will adhere to strict European standards, and to consistent quality controls.

Continued on page 15

Continued from page 14



Munnikhuis is no stranger to Aruba. Over the past decade the dynamic hotelier has enjoyed two successful stints on the island, first as sales executive and later as sales manager for the Marriott Vacation Club overseeing the sales of the Surf Club in its start-up days and returning later to the project to finish it up.

Throughout his career, Munnikhuis who was trained as a fighter pilot in the Dutch

air-force, contributed to the development of successful projects for the prestigious Marriott Vacation Club concept in Marbella, Spain, London, England, Paris, France and Phuket, Thailand. In his capacity as director for Sol Melia he orchestrated projects in the Canary Islands and the Dominican Republic. His life reads like a story book, but he confidently declares that Aruba with its clever blend of American, European

and Latin cultures is among the best places on earth, providing an excellent quality of life to residents and visitors, and true to his philosophy Munnikhuis proudly points out the exact location of his dream-house, to be constructed within the boundaries of Tuscany Residence Aruba, in 2011.

Munnikhuis recruited a strong and vibrant sales-team to help spread the word around that Tuscany Residence Aruba is about to capture the market, in the \$310k to \$750k range with a quality product that is unique and affordable.

Sales Executive Oscar Janga's background is surprisingly similar to that of Munnikhuis having worked for the Marriott Vacation Club for six year, as well as for Costa Linda Beach Resort in its successful heyday. Oscar, a Flight Instructor by profession was trained in the USA, and was a proud pilot for Air Aruba when the fondly-remembered airline serviced Aruba's many destinations in the 90s. Flying for Air Aruba for more than

7 years prepared Oscar for his Tuscany Residence Aruba assignment, appreciating the boutique feel and the intimate Mediterranean atmosphere offered by the development's 153 homes, away from mass overcrowding, favoring the small to medium growth over dense expansion.

Sales Executive Marisol Quijada brings her quadriclingual sales experience to work everyday. With an extensive sales and marketing background Marisol is in possession of an in-depth understanding of the local and Latin markets. She was recruited to the project by Munnikhuis who immediately recognized her excellent people skills and her quiet and assured presence.

Sales Executive Raquel Eman, a local entrepreneur is also a member of the sales team. She recently joined Tuscany Residence Aruba focusing on customer service and long-term relationships with prospective clients. While the sales gallery will remain at the South Beach Centre, she explains, clients will be

able to tour the project, with members of the sales team, to observe construction progress and to keep up with new developments.

The welcome committee of Tuscany Residence Aruba is made up of two charming individuals, Carina Zimmerman and Adriani Moebin, fluent in multiple languages, and blessed with enthusiasm and rich and varied sales experience, in retail and in timeshare.

No wonder that Tuscany Residence Aruba has enjoyed an unprecedented reception, and indications are that this trend will continue through the sell-out phase of the project.

Erick, Marisol, Raquel, Carina & Adriani promise visitors the best coffee north of the equator as well as tireless efforts to help visitors choose the right home, and assist them with financing and paperwork to successfully bring the deal to the Notary's office for signature, as there are not restrictions on real estate purchases in Aruba, and visitors do not need to become residents to own property here.



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Match-Made-In-Heaven marry in Aruba

Fairy Tale Wedding for Christine & Dan



ORANJESTAD - Christine Winner & Daniel Kachelries celebrated their love for one another with the exchange of wedding rings symbolizing a circle with no ending and vows of love for one another forever and ever with their toes in the sand. The marriage celebration was a romantic blessing on the beach with the exchange of rings and vows officiated by Rev. Robert Gibson and coordinated by Indira Maduro of Aruba Fairy Tales at the

Divi Aruba Phoenix Beach Resort. After the exchange of rings, vows and kisses, Christine and Dan continued with a romantic photo shoot, champagne toast and cake cutting ceremony for everyone to enjoy. The group of family and friends enjoyed a private dinner on the beach catered by the Divi Aruba Phoenix Resorts signature restaurant Sunset Bistro.

~ Photos by Julia Renfro ~

Clijsters beats Venus in 3 sets in U.S. Open semis



Kim Clijsters of Belgium prepares to hit balls to fans after beating Venus Williams of the United States 4-6, 7-6(2), 6-4 in the semifinal round of play at the U.S. Open tennis tournament in New York, Friday, Sept. 10, 2010.

Associated Press

RACHEL COHEN
AP Sports Writer
NEW YORK (AP) — Defending champion Kim Clijsters beat Venus Williams in three sets Friday to move one win away from her second straight U.S. Open title. Clijsters' 20th straight victory at Flushing Meadows earned her a place in Saturday's final against seventh-seeded Vera Zvonareva. Zvonareva reached her second straight Grand Slam final, defeating top-seeded Caroline Wozniacki 6-4, 6-3 earlier Friday.

"Obviously, this is what you try to achieve," Clijsters said in an on-court interview. "I never expected I'd come back in this position."

Continued on next page

"Two Dat!"

Saints begin march to second straight Super Bowl

New Orleans Saints quarterback Drew Brees leads the crowd in a "Who Dat" cheer before the Saints' NFL football game against the Minnesota Vikings in New Orleans, Thursday, Sept. 9, 2010.

Associated Press

Page B3



At 43, Torres starts training for 2012 Olympics

NEW YORK — Dara Torres is back in the pool and training for what she hopes will be her sixth Olympics.

The 43-year-old swimmer made the announcement Friday on the morning TV show "Live with Regis and Kelly." Torres decided to try for the 2012 London Games following reconstructive knee surgery. She says she's still recovering from the surgery

and started swimming again five weeks ago. Torres says her "heart and head are like 'Yeah, let's go for it.'"

Competing against athletes half her age, Torres won three silver medals at 41 in the Beijing Olympics. She became the first U.S. swimmer to compete in five Olympics when she made the team for Beijing after giving birth to her first child.

BROKEN COG



Tiger Woods reacts after hitting second shot on the 13th hole during the second round at the BMW Championship golf tournament in Lemont, Ill., Friday, Sept. 10, 2010.

Associated Press
Page B5

U.S. Open

Continued from page B1

I was trying to do it. It wasn't easy but I stuck with it so you can have these moments."

The second-seeded Clijsters won 4-6, 7-6 (2), 6-4 to defeat Williams for the fifth straight time.

Clijsters, who also won the tournament in 2005, is seeking to become the first woman since 2001 to successfully defend her U.S. Open title.

Venus Williams was the last to do that. But 30-year-old American, seeded third, hasn't been back to the final since 2002.

Clijsters' final opponent in 2009, when she was playing only her third tournament back after a 2½-year layoff, was Wozniacki, who was making her first major final appearance.

The 20-year-old Dane had been dominant in her run this year — she lost just 17 games in advancing to the semifinals, the fewest since Serena Williams dropped 14 in 2002.

But Zvonareva knocked Wozniacki off rhythm with powerful serves and assertive play, as the wind again made

conditions difficult for players at Arthur Ashe Stadium. Zvonareva had five aces, and she won 70 percent of points on her first serve and 13 of 17 points at the net.

"It's the right balance between being patient and being aggressive," Zvonareva said. "With those windy conditions, you have to play sometimes ugly. You don't have to expect to play your best tennis."

Wozniacki had an uncharacteristic 31 unforced errors. She had been riding a 13-match winning streak and led the tour with 31 victories on hard courts this year. With top-ranked Serena Williams out with a foot injury, Wozniacki was seeded No. 1 at a Grand Slam for the first time.

"She was not missing a lot," Wozniacki said. "She was going for her shots. Most things were going in. You know, I had chances, and I made some mistakes today that I usually don't do."

Zvonareva, who turned 26 on Tuesday, had never been past the fourth round at the U.S. Open

before this year. She lost to Serena Williams 6-3, 6-2 in her first Grand Slam final at Wimbledon in July.

Before this year's Wimbledon, Zvonareva had been to only one major semifinal in her career, at the 2009 Australian Open. Now she's made two straight finals. Zvonareva hasn't dropped a set the whole tournament.

She kept her emotions under control Friday, unlike her fourth-round loss last year. It was one of the matches that helped cement her reputation as one of the most temperamental players on tour.

Zvonareva smacked herself in the head at one point during her three-set loss last year to 10th-seeded Flavia Pennetta, when she wasted six match points in the second set.

"Tennis is an emotional game," Zvonareva said Friday. "As long as you know yourself and you know which emotions are good for you, which are bad, you can use it to your advantage."



Vera Zvonareva of Russia hits balls to fans after beating Caroline Wozniacki of Denmark 6-4, 6-3 in the semifinal round of play at the U.S. Open tennis tournament in New York, Friday, Sept. 10, 2010. Associated Press



New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady (12) works a passing drill during practice at the NFL football team's facility in Foxborough, Mass., Thursday afternoon, Sept. 9, 2010. Brady was in a two-car accident near his home on Thursday morning but was unhurt.

Associated Press

GLEN JOHNSON
Associated Press Writer
BOSTON (AP) — New England Patriots quarterback

Tom Brady agreed to a four-year contract extension Thursday that would make him the NFL's highest paid

Patriots QB Tom Brady agrees to rich contract

player, according to two people with knowledge of the contract.

The extension begins in 2011 at an average of \$18 million per year with a total of \$48.5 million guaranteed, one of those persons said. Both spoke on condition of anonymity because the paperwork had not yet been filed with the NFL.

Brady agreed the deal hours after being involved in a car crash that left him unhurt.

The Patriots open their season at home Sunday against the Cincinnati Bengals. Brady is entering the final year of his current contract — a six-year, \$57.3 million deal.

The average value of the new deal surpasses that of New York Giants quarterback Eli

Manning, who agreed this year to a six-year, \$97.5 million (\$16.25 million average) extension starting next year.

Brady's new contract was first reported by Peter King of Sports Illustrated during halftime of NBC's telecast of the Minnesota-New Orleans game.

The crash, at an intersection in Boston's Back Bay area, knocked over a light pole and sent a passenger in the minivan that collided with Brady's car to a hospital with injuries that were serious but not considered life-threatening, a police report said.

The 21-year-old driver of the minivan, Ludgero Rodrigues, was cited Thursday for failing to stop at a red light, based on witnesses statements, police

said. Two other people in the minivan were able to exit and had no visible injuries, they said.

The police report said a 49-year-old passenger had to be freed with the Jaws of Life. Rodrigues' driver's license had been suspended at least five times in three years, Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles spokeswoman Ann Dufresne said. Last year, his license was suspended for 180 days after he was arrested for operating under the influence and refused to take a blood-alcohol test, Dufresne said.

RMV records also show that Rodrigues had been charged with a number of moving and traffic violations.

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NFL Roundup

Saints beat Vikings 14-9 in NFL season opener

BRETT MARTEL

AP Sports Writer

NEW ORLEANS (AP) —

Drew Brees and the Saints extended New Orleans' post-Super Bowl euphoria for at least another week after surviving a hard-fought season opener for a 14-9 victory over the Vikings on Thursday night.

Brees completed 27 of 36 passes for 237 yards and one touchdown.

It wasn't the most spectacular way to open a title defense, considering it was a rematch of the riveting 2009 NFC title game last January, which the Saints won in overtime to advance to their first Super Bowl.

"We're not used to 14-9 victories, but we're used to winning," said Brees, the reigning Super Bowl MVP. But it was the lowest-scoring victory of the Sean Payton era, which began in 2006. Still, the Saints will take it, especially since their

defense limited Brett Favre to 171 yards passing and one score.

"I know people are going to say it wasn't the fireworks they expected it to be," Favre said.

Although his offense was far less potent than usual, Payton said he "was proud of the way we came through and made enough plays to start the season 1-0."

Unlike the NFC championship game, the Vikings didn't fumble and turned the ball over only once on Jonathan Vilma's interception of Favre, who made an ill-advised throw as Roman Harper hit him on a safety blitz.

Also unlike their previous meeting, the Saints had most of the statistical advantages, outgaining Minnesota 308 yards to 253 and controlling the



New Orleans Saints running back Pierre Thomas (23) scores the game winning touchdown against the Minnesota Vikings during their season opening NFL football game in New Orleans, Thursday, Sept. 9, 2010. The Saints won 14-9.
 Associated Press

ball for 33:43, compared to 26:17 for Minnesota.

"We knew we would have to play better in a lot of areas than we did last year (against the Vikings) and I felt like we did," Brees said. "We just showed that we can win in a lot of different ways."

New Orleans might have won the game more easily if not for two missed field goals by Garrett Hartley, who kicked the dramatic winning field goal last year.

Still, New Orleans was able to kneel on the ball to run out most of the last two minutes after Pierre Thomas capped a 71-yard, one-touchdown performance with 10-yard, first-down run right after the 2-minute warning.

Adrian Peterson, who rushed for 122 yards and three TDs in the last meeting, rushed for 87

yards on 219 carries against New Orleans' stingy defense.

"We did a very good job of holding against the run and still taking some of the downfield throws away," Payton said.

Although the game was competitive until the final minutes, it hardly lived up to its hype.

Favre's comeback from ankle surgery, marking the start of his 20th season, was largely unspectacular. Despite being sacked only once and hit not nearly as often, or as hard, as in the NFC title game, he looked out of synch or inaccurate at times. The fact that Minnesota was without star receiver Sidney Rice may have had something to do with that.

"There's three of four throws that I just missed," Favre said. "I have no excuse. I just missed."

NL Roundup

Huff, Posey lead Giants' homer barrage

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Aubrey Huff and Buster Posey each hit a two-run homer as the San Francisco Giants beat San Diego 7-3 Thursday night to pull within one game of the NL West-leading Padres.

Matt Cain took a three-hitter into the ninth in the opener of the four-game showdown between the rivals, who also will meet in a season-ending, three-game series at San Francisco from Oct. 1-3. San Francisco is one behind Atlanta in the wild-card race.

Cain (11-10) allowed David Eckstein's leadoff single in the ninth followed by Ryan Ludwick's homer to straightaway center, leading manager Bruce Bochy to turn to Javier Lopez and Ramon Ramirez to finish. Cain struck out eight and walked one.

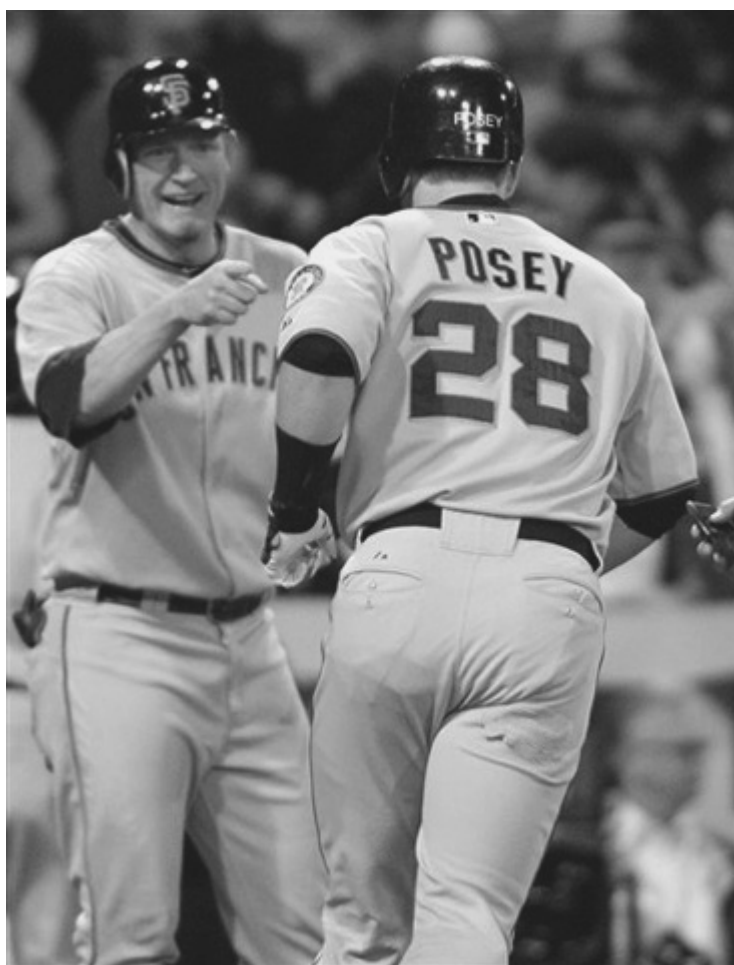
It was the Giants' third win in 12 games against San Diego this season. The Giants have two more losses than the Padres, who have played two fewer games than San Francisco.

San Francisco has won eight of 11 while the Padres have lost 11 of 14.

Jon Garland (13-11) allowed six runs and eight hits in five innings for San Diego.

Cardinals 11, Braves 4

At Atlanta, Colby Rasmus hit a pair of homers, Albert Pujols and Skip Schumaker also connected, and Adam Wainwright bounced



San Francisco Giants' Buster Posey, right, celebrates his two-run home run with Aubrey Huff against the San Diego Padres during the fifth inning of a baseball game in San Diego, Thursday, Sept. 9, 2010.

Associated Press

back from a shaky first inning to lead the Cardinals to the win.

The Braves, aiming to turn things around after a poor road trip

knocked them out of first place in the NL East, jumped ahead 3-0 in the first inning. But the Cardinals rocked Jair Jurrjens (7-5) for five

runs in the second — capped by Schumaker's two-out, two-run drive — and Atlanta took its sixth loss in eight games.

Rasmus went 4 for 4 and drove in four runs, matching his career high in both categories.

Atlanta dropped a full game behind idle Philadelphia in the NL East. The Cardinals won for just the fifth time in 16 games and trail first-place Cincinnati by five games in the NL Central.

Wainwright (18-10) gave up three runs and seven hits in eight innings.

Rockies 6, Reds 5

At Denver, Chris Nelson stole home in the eighth inning to send the Rockies to the four-game series sweep and their season-best seventh consecutive victory. With one out and runners on the corners, Nelson broke for home before Nick Masset (3-4) threw his first pitch to Miguel Olivo. Inexplicably, Masset stepped off the mound, whirled to his left and toward second base.

Nelson scored easily to give the Rockies a 6-5 lead. He became the first player to take home for his first career steal since Dan Uggla of the Florida Marlins accomplished the feat on April 21, 2006, against the Philadelphia Phillies, according to STATS LLC.

Masset said he came set, stepped off the mound and initially thought Melvin Mora was

going to second. He called it "a complete mistake" on his part.

Jason Giambi and Troy Tulowitzki homered for Colorado, which trailed 5-0 after two innings. Tulowitzki's tying leadoff drive in the eighth was his 18th homer and sixth in seven games.

Drew Stubbs hit a two-run shot in Cincinnati's four-run second.

Matt Belisle (7-5) recorded two outs to get win and Huston Street worked the ninth for his 17th save in 21 opportunities.

Astros 3, Dodgers 2

At Houston, rookie Chris Johnson hit a three-run homer in the sixth inning as the Astros rallied to get the victory.

Johnson, who struck out in his first two at-bats, drove a full-count pitch from Ted Lilly (8-10) to the train tracks in left field for his eight homer, erasing a two-run deficit. Hunter Pence singled to extend his hitting streak to 10 games and Carlos Lee walked to set up Johnson's one-out drive.

Bud Norris (7-8) struck out seven in six innings for Houston, which has won three straight.

Andre Ethier hit a two-run homer in the first inning for the Dodgers, who have dropped six straight and eight of nine.

In other NL games it was Colorado 6, Cincinnati 5; St. Louis 11, Atlanta 4; Houston 3, L.A. Dodgers 2; and San Francisco 7, San Diego 3.

Santana to have shoulder surgery

By BEN WALKER

AP Baseball Writer

NEW YORK — Johan Santana is headed for shoulder surgery, making this the third straight year the high-priced New York Mets' ace will spend the offseason recovering from an operation.

The Mets said they anticipated Santana would be OK to resume throwing next spring. But left-hander acknowledged doctors told him it was "not a common injury" to his pitching shoulder, and Santana said the most important thing was for him to get healthy.

"Whether it's April, May, July, October," Santana said Friday. "Who knows? Time will tell."

An MRI exam on Thursday showed the two-time AL Cy Young Award winner has a torn anterior capsule on the front and bottom of his pitching shoulder. The 31-year-old Santana was 11-9 with a 2.98 ERA in 29 starts this season, and had pitched 199 innings.

Santana left his start a week ago Thursday in Atlanta after five innings because he felt tightness in his shoulder. He told manager Jerry Manuel he could keep pitching, but was taken out as a precaution. The Mets later announced he had a strained pectoral muscle and listed him as day-to-day.

"I didn't know the magnitude of the injury I had," Santana said before the Mets opened a series against Philadelphia. "I was told it's going to take time."

Santana said his injury was similar to one that Yankees catcher Jorge Posada was able to recover from. Santana said he was waiting for a second opinion from noted orthopedist Dr. James Andrews.

Santana said he'd prefer to have the surgery soon so he could begin his rehabilitation. He should be able to begin playing catch in January, he said doctors told him.

"I just have to recover and hope this will be the end of it," Santana said. "Get everything fixed."



In this July 28, 2010, file photo, New York Mets starting pitcher Johan Santana reacts during first inning of a baseball game against the St. Louis Cardinals at Citi Field in New York. Santana will have shoulder surgery. The Mets said Friday, Sept. 10, 2010, that an MRI a day earlier showed the two-time AL Cy Young Award winner has a torn anterior capsule on the front and bottom of his pitching shoulder.

Associated Press

Tiger Woods struggles again at Cog Hill's BMW

NANCY ARMOUR

AP National Writer

LEMONT, Illinois (AP) —

Tiger Woods is stuck between old and new, and it might cost him a spot at the FedEx Cup finale.

Woods is overhauling his swing, a process that can be downright ugly — even for the world's No. 1 player. Needing to make a big move up the leaderboard at the BMW Championship on Friday, he instead failed to break par for the second straight day at Cog Hill, a course where he's won five times.

"I'm caught right between takeaways, and I hit some bad shots around the greens because of it," Woods said. "It'll come around. I just need more time, more practice." Another round like this, and he'll have more time than he wanted.

Woods needs to finish somewhere around fifth to be among the top 30 players in FedEx Cup standings who qualify for the Tour Championship and the chance to compete for a \$10 million bonus. He was tied for 40th at 3 over after a 1-over 72 Friday, and was nine strokes behind leaders Charlie Wi and Matt Kuchar.

"I did it last year on the weekend," said Woods, who shot a course-record 62 on Saturday on his way to the BMW title last year. "Hopefully, I can do it again." Always looking for something, any little thing, that might give him an edge, Woods knew this summer that his game was in serious need of a fix. As his marriage crumbled following revelations of his rampant infidelities, so did his game. He has yet to win this year, and has just two top 10s. Woods, who parted ways with swing coach Hank Haney in May, knew he needed another set of eyes to correct his problems. But he said earlier this week that he didn't have the time — or the energy.

"Let's just say I've been through a lot lately, and I didn't want to have any more information," he said

Wednesday. "I was trying to get adjusted to my new life and what that entailed, and it was enough as it was."

He started working with Canadian swing coach Sean Foley at last month's PGA Championship, and likes the instant feedback he gets and the feel of what Foley has him doing.

"It feels very similar to what I used to do as a kid," Woods said.

But it's going to take time.

When Woods is at his best, his swing is second nature. Now he has to think about his technique and fundamentals on every shot.

"Even if I have to hit creative shots out of the trees, I still have to do it according to the new framework," he said. "I've been through this process before so I understand it. I've just got to be patient."

Cog Hill is one place Woods has always been able to count on playing well. He has four other top 10s in addition to his five wins here, and has finished no worse than 23rd since 1995.

But there were some holes Friday where he fought for every shot. He double-bogeyed the par-4 fifth, a hole where he routinely is on the green in two, and went from rough to sand on No. 3.

His putting wasn't exactly sharp, either. Woods took



Tiger Woods watches after his tee shot on the 17th hole during the second round at the BMW Championship golf tournament in Lemont, Ill., Friday, Sept. 10, 2010.

Associated Press

28 putts, and he had misses from distances that would normally be gimmes. He had a 3-footer for birdie on No. 1 — he started on the back nine — and could only shake his head as he watched the ball circle the back rim and scoot away.

He didn't even bother waiting to see if his 6-footer for par would drop on No. 3, knowing as soon as he struck it that it was too much.

"I made nothing," Woods said. "I feel like I'm hitting

good putts, they're just not going in."

Blame that on the swing overhaul, too.

"When I went through the changes with Butch and Hank and now with Sean, I went through stretches where I

didn't chip the ball well or putt well because there's only so much time you have to spend and I've been working hard on my full swing," Woods said. "It's coming around, but certainly my short game is not where it needs to be."

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AL Roundup

Damon has 4 hits as Tigers beat Chicago 6-3

DETROIT (AP) — Johnny Damon had a season-high four hits as the Detroit Tigers beat Chicago 6-3 Thursday to hand the White Sox their third straight loss.

The White Sox (77-63) fell six games behind idle Minnesota in the AL Central, their largest deficit since June 17.

Rick Porcello (9-11) gave up three runs and four hits in eight innings to win his fourth straight start. Ryan Perry pitched the ninth for his second save.

Gavin Floyd (10-12) allowed six runs over six innings. He gave up 13 hits, all of them

singles.

Alex Rios hit a two-run homer for Chicago in the fourth. Ryan Raburn and Jhonny Peralta each had two RBIs as the Tigers won for the ninth time in 10 games at Comerica Park, where they are 46-26.

Rangers 4, Blue Jays 2

At Toronto, Colby Lewis won for the first time since mid-July and Mitch Moreland drove in three runs to lead Texas to the victory.

The Rangers, who lead the AL West, won their second straight after losing nine of 12.

Vladimir Guerrero went 3 for



Detroit Tigers' Johnny Damon hits a ground-rule double against the Chicago White Sox during the third inning of a baseball game in Chicago, Sunday, Aug. 15, 2010. Associated Press

4 and scored twice for Texas. Toronto's Jose Bautista hit his major league-leading 44th homer, a solo shot off Darren O'Day in the eighth. Lyle Overbay hit a solo homer off

Lewis in the seventh, his 18th. The Blue Jays lead the majors with 218 homers this season, including a major league-high 122 at home.

Lewis (10-12) was sharp over

6 1-3 innings, allowing one run and five hits.

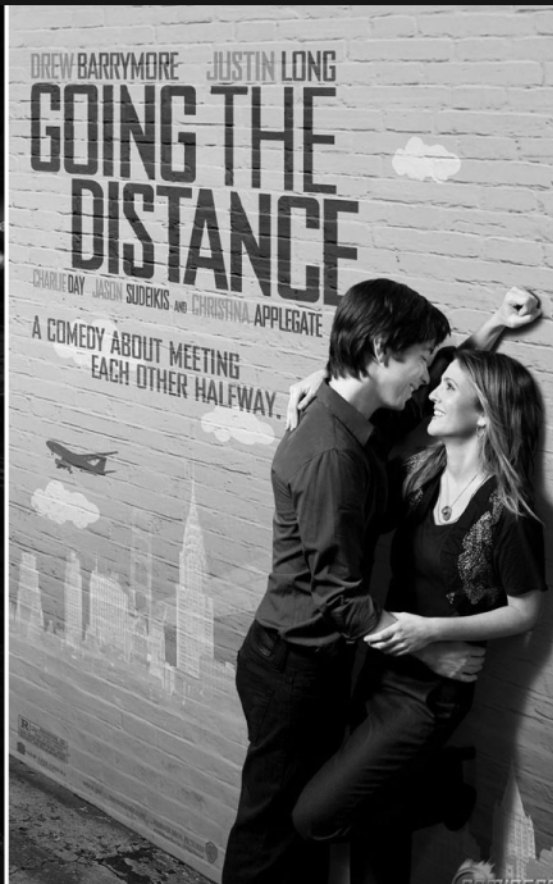
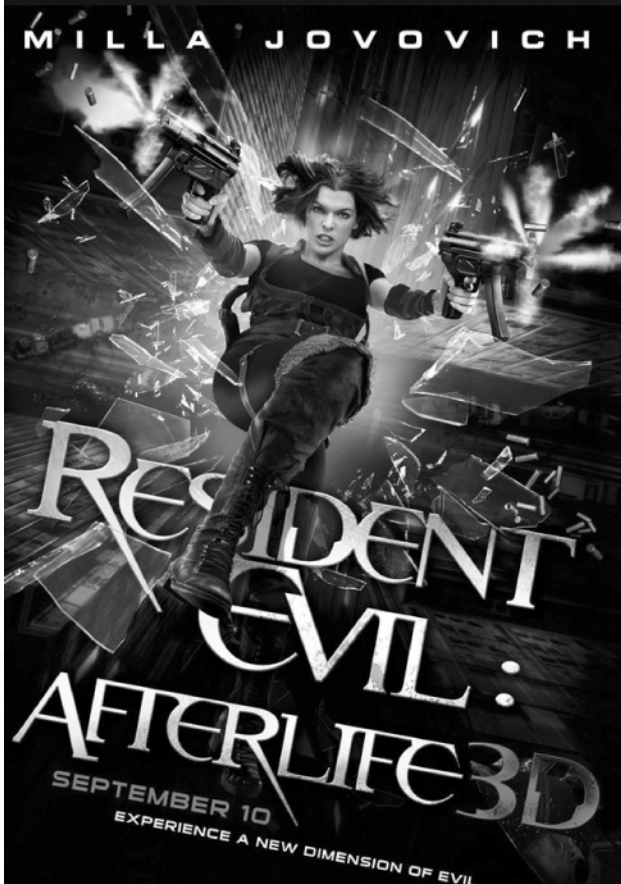
Shawn Hill (0-1) pitched 5 1-3 innings for Toronto, yielding four runs, three earned, and eight hits.



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NANNY MC PHEE RETURNS daily: 6:00 - 8:45 matinee: 1:00 - 3:30 late show: 11:30 PG	AVATAR SPECIAL EDITION 3D daily: 12:00 3:45 matinee: 12:00 3:45 late show: 11:30 PG-13
VAMPIRES SUCK daily: 4:00 - 6:30 - 9:00 matinee: 1:15 late show: 11:30 PG-13	TAKERS daily: 6:15 - 8:45 matinee: 1:15 - 3:45 late show: 11:15 PG-13
THE EXPENDABLES daily: 5:30 - 8:00 matinee: 12:30 - 3:00 late show: 11:00 R	PIRANHA 3D daily: 4:45 - 7:00 - 9:15 matinee: 11:30 late show: 11:30 R
AVATAR SPECIAL EDITION 3D daily: 12:00 - 3:45 matinee: 12:00 3:45 late show: 11:30 PG-13	LOTTERY TICKET daily: 4:00 - 6:15 - 8:45 matinee: 1:45 late show: 11:15 PG-13
PIRANHA 3D daily: 6:30 - 8:45 matinee: 11:00 late show: 11:00 R	THE OTHER GUYS daily: 4:00 - 6:30 - 9:00 matinee: 1:30 late show: 11:30 PG-13
CATS & DOGS GALORE 3D daily: 4:15 matinee: 12:15 - 2:15 late show: 11:30 PG	STEP UP 3D daily: 12:00 2:30 matinee: 12:00 2:30 late show: 11:30 PG-13

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AQUARIUS

Klitschko to defend title against Peter

NESHA STARCEVIC

AP Sports Writer

FRANKFURT, Germany (AP)

— Heavyweight champion Wladimir Klitschko is predicting a quick knockout in his rematch with Nigerian fighter Samuel Peter on Saturday.

Klitschko says he is a much better fighter than he was five

years ago when he was sent to the canvas three times before beating Peter in an unanimous decision.

Peter is challenging the Ukrainian holder of the IBF, WBO and IBO heavyweight belts and is equally confident of a quick victory.

“It was one of the most difficult and important fights I had at

the time,” Klitschko said of the bout in Atlantic City five years ago. “It was a milestone in my career.”

“But what doesn’t kill me, only makes me harder,” he said. “I’ve become much more harder over the years and much more consistent in implementing my game plan of how to control a rival.”

The Klitschko brothers remain a big draw in their adopted homeland of Germany despite an often unspectacular cautious style. The fight at Frankfurt’s football stadium is expected to draw 40,000.

Klitschko takes a 54-3 record into the fight, with 48 KOs. Peter is 34-3, with 27 KOs.

Peter called Klitschko’s style “girls’ fighting” and said the Ukrainian brothers were destroying the heavyweight division with the way they fight. Both brothers like to take control of a fight by using their height and reach to jab away at an opponent and not risk going for a knockout at any price.

“What they do belongs to lighter divisions, not the heavyweight,” Peter said.

Peter already has lost to the older Vitali Klitschko, failing to come out for the 9th round in October 2008 to lose his WBC title.

The “Nigerian Nightmare” turned 30 on Monday and is four years younger than Wladimir. He is also a much slimmer, seemingly fitter version of the



Wladimir Klitschko from the Ukraine and Samuel Peter of Nigeria, from left, pose for photographers on during a news conference in Frankfurt, Germany on Monday, Sept. 6, 2010. IBF, WBO and IBO heavyweight Champion Wladimir Klitschko will try to defend his title against Samuel Peter of Nigeria in Frankfurt, Germany, on upcoming Saturday. Associated Press

fighter that could not win despite flooring Klitschko three times. Peter has won his last four fights by knockout.

“I have a lot to prove. I have a chance to redeem myself from the 2005 fight. I am getting another chance to prove that I am the best heavyweight champion in all,” Peter said.

“There will not be a decision this time around. This time, he will not get up from my left hook. This time around, anyone I touch will not be standing up. So I don’t think Wladimir will be able to stand up to me after four rounds.”

Klitschko advised his fans not to go to the refrigerator to pick up a beer because they may miss the knockout punch “Dr. Steelhammer” hopes to deliver. Klitschko’s trainer, Emanuel Steward, said Wladimir has the power to knock out anyone with either hand.

“Based on Wladimir’s state of mind and the way that he’s trained for this fight, he will punch harder sooner. It will be the first time that Peter gets completely knocked out,” Steward said.

At 6-6 1/2 Klitschko has a big height advantage over the 6-2 Peter.

Funk, Allen, Blake grab lead in South Korea



Fred Funk of the United States tees off during the first round of the Posco E&C Songdo Championship at the Jack Nicklaus Golf Club in Incheon, west of Seoul, South Korea, Friday, Sept. 10, 2010. The tournament is the first Champions Tour event to be played in Asia from Sept. 10-12. Funk finished the first round at three under par.

Associated Press

INCHEON, South Korea (AP) — Fred Funk, Michael Allen and Jay Don Blake shared the lead Friday after the rain-delayed opening round of the Champions Tour’s first tournament in Asia.

All three Americans shot 3-under 69s after the start of the tournament was delayed by 1 hour, 39 minutes due to rain and wet conditions. The course had received more than two inches of rain from early in the evening Thursday. “Conditions were remarkably good with all the rain,” said Funk, who won the U.S. Senior Open in 2009.

Organizers brought in a two-tee start — in which some players start on the front nine and others on the back nine — to make up for lost time Friday.

“(The) course was soft and you could really go at the pins today,” said Allen, who chipped in from 25 feet for a birdie on the par-4 10th hole.

John Cook and Sandy Lyle were one shot behind with 2-under 70s. D.A. Weibring stood 1-under at 70, while a quartet of players — Nam-Sin Park, Naomichi Ozaki, Olin Browne and Denis Watson — shot even par 72s.

Champions Tour money leader Bernhard Langer shot a 1-over 73. The two-time Masters champion from Germany was four shots behind in a tie with 11 others. Tom Watson, the runner-up in the British Open last year, shot a 3-over 75.

The 54-hole Posco E&C Songdo Championship is being played on the 7,087-yard course at the Jack Nicklaus Golf Club Korea in the port city of Incheon. Nicklaus designed the course.

The event has a record Champions Tour purse of \$3 million. The winner will take home \$450,000.



BURGOS, Spain (AP) — Mark Cavendish won a massive sprint finish for his second successive Spanish Vuelta stage victory on Friday, as Igor Anton of Spain kept the overall leader’s red jersey. Cavendish won the 121.8 miles 13th leg

Cavendish wins second successive Spanish Vuelta stage

of the Spanish classic in a time of 4 hours, 50 minutes, 18 seconds. Thor Hushovd of Norway and Italian rival Daniele Bennati came next in the same time as sprinters enjoyed another day at the front of the peloton. Cavendish paid tribute to his HTC-Columbia teammates.

“They’re young, but they’re really dedicated and concentrated,” the British rider said. “I’m really proud of the work they’re doing here and I can’t thank them enough.”

Euskaltel Euskadi cyclist Anton was 49th in the same time to maintain a 45-second overall advantage over Vincenzo Nibali of Italy. Anton’s overall time of 56:28:03 is 1:04 better than third-place Xavier Tondo of Cervelo, while fellow Spaniards Joaquin Rodriguez of Katusha and Ezequiel Mosquera of Xacobeo-Galicia trail by 1:17 and 1:29, respectively. Saturday’s 111-mile 14th stage from Burgos to Pena Cabarga includes three mountain climbs.

Russian Cargo Ship Blasts Off for Space Station

An unmanned Russian cargo ship launched into orbit Friday after a two-day delay on a mission to deliver fresh food and other supplies to the International Space Station crew.

The Progress 39 spacecraft blasted off from the Central Asian spaceport of Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan at 6:22 a.m. EDT (1022 GMT) with more than 2 tons of supplies for the station crew. The launch had been delayed from Wednesday due to high winds at the launch site.

Known in Russia as Progress M-07M, the automated space freighter will dock at the International Space Station Sunday at 7:58 a.m. EDT (1158 GMT).

Packed aboard the Progress 39 are 1,918 pounds (870 kg) of propellant, 110 pounds (50 kg) of oxygen, 375 pounds (170 kg) of water and 2,645 pounds (1,200 kg) of spare parts, experiment gear and other vital supplies, NASA officials have said.

Progress 39's space station arrival is coming on the heels of the departure of an older Progress cargo vessel, which left the orbiting lab on Aug. 31 to make way for the new delivery ship. That older ship, Progress 38, burned up in the Earth's atmosphere on Sept. 6 as planned.

Russia's Progress cargo ships are similar to the country's manned Soyuz spacecraft, but do not have a re-entry capsule for the return to Earth. Instead, they carry a fuel pod and are built to be disposed of in Earth's atmosphere.

The supplies on Progress 39 will support the six people living aboard the space station.

The station's crew is currently made up of three Americans from NASA and three Russians representing the Federal Space Agency, but that will soon change.

Half of the crew will depart the space station on Sept. 23 to end a six-month mission that began in April. The three station crewmembers left behind are flying their own six-month mission, which began



in June. They will be joined by another three-person crew later this month.

The \$100 billion International Space Station has been under construction since 1998 and is

nearly complete, with the final assembly mission slated to fly in February 2011. Astronaut

crews have been flying to and from the station since 2000.

The next space shuttle mission to visit the station is slated to launch Nov. 1. That mission on the shuttle Discovery will deliver a new storage room and humanoid robot assistant for the station crew.

Graphic: Inside and Out – the International Space Station
Top 10 Soviet and Russian Space Missions

Space Shuttle Discovery Leaves Hangar for Final Spaceflight

NASA will broadcast the Progress 39 cargo ship's arrival at the International Space Station live on NASA TV Sunday at 7:15 a.m. ET. Click here for space station mission updates and SPACE.com's NASA TV link.

NIH to resume funding stem cell research for now



WASHINGTON – The government said Friday it's back in the business of funding embryonic stem cell research — at least for now — after an appeals court temporarily lifted a judge's ban.

The National Institutes of Health said it is resuming its own research and will again evaluate applications from scientists who are seeking taxpayer money to do the work, a process that has been frozen since late last month.

An appeals court on Thursday temporarily stayed a judge's preliminary order barring that funding until it could hear full arguments in the next few weeks.

In the meantime, the NIH said it is lifting its suspension of all grants and contracts involving use of the cells.

"We are pleased with the court's interim ruling, which will allow promising stem cell research to continue" while the court battle is waged, said the NIH's statement.

Scientists who already had received NIH grants had been told to continue working until their dollars ran out, but that 22 projects due to get yearly checks in September would have to find other money.

Now the question is whether the NIH will finish the reviews required for those projects during what could be only a temporary reprieve. No matter what, the case is certain to be bouncing around the court system for many months before there's a final resolution.

"We believe it's a shame that they would rush to push funding of embryonic stem cell research, and a waste of taxpayer money," said Steven H. Aden, senior legal counsel for the Alliance Defense

Fund, which is involved with the lawsuit that challenged the government funding.

Embryonic stem cells are master cells that can turn into any tissue of the body, and researchers hope one day to harness that power in ways that cure spinal cord injuries, Parkinson's disease and other ailments.

Culling them from embryos left over after fertility treatment kills a days-old embryo. A 1996 law prohibits the use of taxpayer dollars in work that harms an embryo, so batches have been culled using private money. But those batches can reproduce in lab dishes indefinitely, and government policies say using taxpayer dollars to work with the already created batches is permissible.

Last month, U.S. District Court Judge Royce Lamberth disagreed, in a sharply worded preliminary injunction in which he argued that the research violated the intent of the 1996 law. Lamberth left little doubt that he is inclined to issue a final order barring funding, which will set off a new round of appeals.

Amid the back-and-forth, researchers are struggling to figure out how to secure long-running experiments.

"I take no solace in the ruling because so much uncertainty remains about the future of human stem cell research," said Dr. George Daley, a leading stem cell researcher at Children's Hospital Boston. "I won't rest peacefully until there is a clear and unambiguous vote of support from the Congress for this vital research."

Congress twice passed legislation specifically calling for tax-funded stem cell research, which President George W. Bush vetoed. Some Democrats are considering whether to try the legislation again.

The lawsuit was filed by two scientists who argued that President Barack Obama's expansion of the number of stem cell lines available for government funding jeopardized their ability to win grants to research adult stemcells — ones that have already matured to create specific types of tissues — because of extra competition.

Many scientists believe the more flexible embryonic cells have more promise, but lots of work is under way with both kinds. The NIH's estimated budget for next year would spend more than three times as much on research for adult stem cells as embryonic ones, said Patrick Clemons of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

India not treating AIDS patients early: Global Fund

NEW DELHI — Thousands of AIDS patients in India are not receiving treatment on time, underscoring huge challenges the country faces as it combats the disease, the Global Fund To Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria said on Thursday.

India, with 2.27 million patients, is among the top three countries with the highest number of HIV cases, alongside South Africa and Nigeria.

But with HIV cases lying untreated in many parts of the country, it poses a threat to the country's prevention measures, the fund's executive director, Michel Kazatchkine, said.

"Some of the population groups are at higher risks and it means we have to reach these groups with prevention," Kazatchkine told Reuters in an interview.

"There are 300,000 people receiving treatment, but that is about only one-third of all



the people who are estimated to be in need of treatment."

Indian authorities say HIV cases are showing signs of rising in parts of New Delhi, the financial hub of Mumbai and the north and northeast, among other areas. "In order to access treatment you first have to know that you are HIV positive," Kazatchkine said.

The Geneva-

based Global Fund, which signed healthcare agreements worth over \$244 million with India this week, has committed \$1.8 billion to New Delhi for fighting AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis since 2002.

It also urged India to spend more from its budget on healthcare and improve its healthcare system domestically.

The Indian government

spends about 1 percent of its GDP on healthcare facilities, much less than some African countries, forcing millions to struggle to get medicines.

"Clearly India is one of the countries with the smallest percent of health budget of its overall budget going into health and this is an issue," Kazatchkine said.

While India's economic growth has been forecast to

hover around 8.5 percent for 2010-2011, authorities acknowledge there is need to spend more in villages where many health centers do not have medicines, doctors or diagnostic facilities.

In March, the World Bank and other agencies said India will have to scale up prevention of HIV to avoid spending an increasing share of its already low budget on treatment of HIV/AIDS patients.

Otherwise the cost of treatment in India could rise to \$1.8 billion by 2020, about 7 percent of the total health expenditure, the World Bank said.

Kazatchkine said India faces huge challenges as it tackles other diseases like tuberculosis and malaria.

"India bears one-fifth of all the burden of TB in the world. There are many challenges around TB and many challenges about diagnosis of malaria," he added.

Cholera stalks West Africa as rains spread disease

GANJUWA, Nigeria — Patients jammed rudimentary clinics and health workers in surgical masks sprayed antibacterial solution on muddy paths as the government struggled to contain a cholera epidemic that has killed nearly 800 Nigerians in two months.

The worst epidemic in Nigeria in 19 years is spreading to Cameroon, Chad and Niger, where it has killed hundreds more. At a maternity clinic and a nearby hospital in Ganjuwa, patients with blank eyes lay contorted on fouled mattresses from severe diarrhea triggered by the cholera. Small children laying under traditional brightly colored cloth were hooked up to IV tubes as doctors tried to save them by rehydrating them intravenously.

As more and more patients

arrived and occupied all the beds in the wards, doctors had to put them into storerooms and concrete hallways wet with human waste.

Throughout villages like Ganjuwa and cities across West Africa, lack of clean drinking water is allowing the waterborne bacterial disease to bloom. In Nigeria, 13,000 people have been sickened, according to the nation's Health Ministry.

Salisu Garba needs only to look at a communal trash pit outside his family's home in Ganjuwa to see how the cholera bacteria sickened and ultimately killed his 20-year-old brother. Seasonal rains have turned the trash pit into a pond of raw sewage, which seeps into nearby wells, infecting Garba's family and others in this rural village in north-

ern Nigeria.

"That pond is a source of worry," Garba said. "We don't have any hope." "These areas become breeding ground for cholera," said Chris Cormency, a UNICEF official monitoring the epidemic.

Cormency said the disease began in Nigeria and then spread to neighboring Cameroon, where more than 300 people have died and 5,000 have fallen ill. In Chad, more than 40 have died and 600 are sickened, while the disease also has popped up in nearby Niger, he said. It was not immediately clear how many people were affected there.

After someone was found sick with cholera on a train in Cameroon, the other 1,500 people onboard panicked. Health of-



ficials gave out antibiotics and tried to decontaminate the train, media in Cameroon reported.

Cholera is a fast-developing, highly contagious infection that causes diarrhea, leading to severe dehydration and possible death. The current outbreak is the worst in Ni-

geria since 1991, when 7,654 people died, according to the World Health Organization.

Cholera is easily preventable with clean water and sanitation but in places like West Africa, sanitation often remains an afterthought in teeming city slums and mudwalled villages.

Director: 'Barney's Version' took 10 years

VENICE, Italy – 'Barney's Version,' which made its debut at the Venice Film Festival's last main day, spans four decades in the life of a flawed man and took 10 years to reach the screen.

Richard J. Lewis directs the film adaptation of Canadian author Mordecai Richler's comic novel, with Paul Giamatti playing Barney Panofsky and Dustin Hoffman as the character's father, Izzy. Producer John Landis was friends with Richler, who died in 2001, and said a decade was needed for turning the 400-page book into the movie.

"He was the enfant terrible of the Jewish community in Canada because he made fun of them," Landis told reporters of Richler. "He perfected the art of satirical wit, but he is making fun of them with a soft glove."

Director Lewis said he felt pressure "every day" in adapting the much-loved

book to film. "There was a lot of pressure to be sure the essential nature of the book was translated to the screen and to be sure the love story was succinct," he said.

That love story involves Panofsky's third wife and true love Miriam, played in the film by Rosamund Pike. The relationship serves to transform Panofsky from a rather reprehensible and obnoxious individual into someone human and generous. Giamatti plays Panofsky as essentially a self-deprecating, self-destructive, low-grade television producer with a foul mouth who is also a possible murderer, and often drunk to boot. "I just followed the script and I tried not to get in the way of it and screw it up," he said.

Perhaps most notable among the film's on-screen antics were the scenes between Giamatti and Hoffman.

"If he needs to get deeper in the scene, he turns it inside out. It becomes like a Picasso painting, and you follow him. He knows what he is doing," Giamatti said of working with Hoffman.

Giamatti described one key scene where Hoffman corrected Giamatti's misinterpretation of a scene in which Panofsky wants to tell his father he is getting a divorce and ask his advice on doing that.

"I said a line, and he said 'I don't believe you.' He pulled it out of me. What the scene was really about is that I wanted to tell him about the woman I was in love with. And I didn't know it." The festival ends Saturday evening with the awarding of the top Golden Lion and other prizes.



Christian Siriano's Global Reach

New York – Christian Siriano is generally regarded as the most talented American designer to have emerged from reality TV in the past half decade. Though based in New York, his spring 2011 collection shown in New York Thursday, Sept. 9, the opening day of the runway season, owed as much to Asia as his hometown the United States, the result being a hybrid and exotic take on American sportswear. Siriano ranged across the globe for inspiration and the more ethnic and Asian inspired the looks, the



"Project Runway." But it does not lack polish.

His program notes cited Africa, India and China as influences, and he distilled his foreign inspiration into some rather chic daywear, which opened his show in the purpose-built fashion runway center in Lincoln Center.

Thursday also marked the first day the New York season has been centered in its new uptown digs, after being located in midtown Bryant Park since 1994. The new, larger premises certainly looked classier, with plusher seating and carpeting, larger entrance space and a slickly done entrance - a giant

stronger they were. His fashion brand is very much a work-in-progress, and has been ever since he exploded into the public's imagination by becoming the youngest-ever winner of

faux cut stone wall that aped the surrounding arts center, and finished with a witty detail - the "stone" wrapped around a silver woman's miniature bust.

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Nokia brings in Microsoft exec to replace CEO

HELSINKI/LONDON—Nokia has hired Stephen Elop, a Canadian Microsoft executive with Silicon Valley credentials, to replace its embattled chief executive and renew its drive to compete with Apple.

The world's top cellphone maker said Olli-Pekka Kallasvuo, who presided over a halving in Nokia's market value to about \$37 billion during his four years in charge, would hand over to Elop on September 21. Nokia shares rose as much as 6.9 percent.

Elop, 46, has risen rapidly over the past five years from chief executive of San Francisco Web software maker Macromedia to chief operating officer of Juniper Networks to head of Microsoft's Business Division, which makes Office software.

Chairman Jorma Ollila, who led Nokia's transformation from a rubber boots-to-TVs conglomerate into a mobile-phone giant in the 1990s, said he would also resign as soon as possible after the transition, underlining the scale of change at the Finnish company.

Under Kallasvuo, who will get a severance payment of 4.6 million



euros (\$5.8 million), Nokia has struggled to keep up with rivals such as Apple and Google in smartphones, the most profitable and fastest-growing part of the market.

At a Helsinki news conference, Elop said it was too early to say what he planned to change. He said: "My job is ... to ensure that we are meeting the needs of our customers, while delivering superior financial results."

The conference was broadcast live on Finland's main television and radio channels, demonstrating the strength of national interest in the 145-year-old company, which dominates the Nordic nation's economy.

Elop's appointment is a major shift for Nokia; he will be the first non-Finn to run the company, and eight of the current 10 executive board members are Finns.

Investors and pundits had urged

Nokia to bring in an outsider, ideally an American, to help the company regain a reputation for "cool" it has largely lost to Apple's iPhone and a host of other phones built around Google's Android software.

The Finnish company has lacked a hit smartphone model since its N95 model launched in 2006, has failed to ignite much excitement around its new Web services and has performed particularly

weakly in the United States.

DAUNTING TASK

Elop told the news conference North America was a critically important market and would be "an area of emphasis."

Ollila said of Elop: "His strong software background and proven record in change management will be valuable assets as we press harder to complete the transformation of the company." Nokia shares rose almost 7 percent but later lost most of their gains to trade up 1.9 percent at 7.89 euros by 1405 GMT (10:05 a.m. EDT). The European technology index was flat.

"They have had problems for a long time and have been behind the curve on trends for the past few years.

I think it could be good to get new influences, thoughts and ideas," said Inge Heydorn, fund manager at Sentat Asset Management.

"Elop faces a daunting task. Nokia has lost its leadership in high-tier phones and has struggled with the rise of Internet-led services," said Ben Wood, head of research at UK-based telecoms analyst firm CCS Insight.

Greece pledges to overhaul loss-making state rail



THESSALONIKI, Greece — The Greek government pledged Friday to radically overhaul loss-making state rail company OSE, as official data showed efforts to cut the country's bloated budget deficit remained on track, if slightly asthmatic. Prime Minister George Papandreou said OSE was a major liability, bleeding cash and offering substandard

service. The company has run up euro10.7 billion in debts — adding pressure on the Socialist government which remains excluded from bond markets because of sky-high interest rates.

"For years (the state railways) operated as an organization that unfortunately multiplied the country's deficits, while providing a very poor quality of services," Papandreou told a cabinet meeting in Thessaloniki.

"This is going to change so that the (deficit) ... will stop and for Greece to get high-quality and reliable transport services."

Papandreou's transport minister, Dimitris Reppas, said the restructuring will involve slashing employee bonuses and overtime pay, axing loss-making rail services and selling a 49 percent stake in rail operator TrainOSE. Staff will be cut from current 6,300 to 3,800 through transfer offers to other public sector jobs.

Passenger services will also be opened up to private competition.

Papandreou will deliver a keynote speech on the economy Saturday, at the opening of an annual trade fair in this northern port city, with unions organizing protest rallies against his economic austerity plans.

Greece is in the midst of a deepening recession, while laboring to rein in a runaway budget deficit and public debt that brought the country to the brink of bankruptcy in May. That was avoided through emergency loans from the European Union and the International Monetary Fund. In return for the loans, Papandreou's center-left government slashed spending, cut pensions and salaries, and hiked consumer taxes, aiming to cut the deficit from 13.6 percent of annual output in 2009 to 8.1 percent this year.

Ebay wins a round in court against Craigslist

SAN JOSE, Calif. — In a skirmish between two Internet heavy hitters with a tangled relationship, eBay Inc. has convinced a court that it was wronged by antitakeover moves adopted by Craigslist after eBay started encroaching on its online classifieds turf in the U.S.

A judge ruled Thursday that Craigslist founder Craig Newmark and CEO Jim Buckmaster violated their responsibilities to eBay — which bought a stake in Craigslist in 2004 — with changes they implemented that diluted eBay's share from 28.4 percent to 24.9 percent and made it harder for eBay to sell the interest.

Craigslist made the changes in 2008 after determining that eBay had changed from a partner to a threat.

That shift happened after eBay launched a U.S. version of its Kijiji classifieds site

— which competed directly with Craigslist — and started buying online ads steering Internet users looking for Craigslist to its own sites. Buckmaster testified in a nine-day trial.

The judge, William Chandler III of Delaware's Court of Chancery, ordered Craigslist to reverse the steps that diluted eBay's stake in Craigslist. However, he allowed another step that Craigslist took to keep eBay at bay to stand. That move made it harder for eBay to unilaterally name a director to Craigslist's board.

"eBay brought this suit to protect its own shareholders and preserve its valuable investment in Craigslist," Michael Jacobson, eBay's general counsel, said in a statement. "The evidence presented at trial demonstrated that the actions were taken by Mr. Buckmaster and Mr. Newmark to benefit



themselves at the expense of eBay, and we are gratified that the court recognized these actions were both unfair and unlawful and rectified the situation."

Craigslist, which is based in San Francisco, representatives did not immediately respond to a message from The Associated Press.

The fight centers on whether Craigslist was justified in actions that it claimed were defensive.

Craigslist accused eBay of misusing confidential information to start Kijiji, trying to seize control of Craigslist after buying the minority stake, and refusing

to make good on a promise to help Craigslist expand internationally.

Craigslist officials have said that former eBay CEO Meg Whitman, who is now running for California governor, assured them that Craigslist would be eBay's exclusive partner for online classifieds in the U.S.

After Kijiji launched in the U.S., Newmark and Buckmaster wrote Whitman and expressed that they weren't happy having eBay as an investor anymore and wanted to buy back eBay's stake or convince eBay to sell it to someone else, according to eBay's lawsuit. Whitman

replied that eBay didn't want to unload its stake in Craigslist and in fact wanted to buy the company outright if given the chance.

eBay argued that it retained the right to compete broadly with Craigslist, and that the changes Craigslist made in response to eBay's moves went beyond the penalties allowed in the original shareholders agreement between the companies.

eBay, which is based in San Jose, shares fell 0.4 percent, or 10 cents, to \$24.20 in extended trading Thursday, after falling 1.1 percent, or 27 cents, to close the regular session at \$24.30.

Users Spend More Time on Facebook, So You Should Too

ComScore reports that Facebook has surpassed Google as the online destination where users spend the most time. Google may lead in the volume of visits or visitors, but Facebook users take off their coat and stay awhile, while Google users are just passing through.

According to comScore, users spent 41.1 million minutes on Facebook during the month of August. That time accounts for nearly ten percent of the total time spent online, and beats out Google which captured only 9.6 percent of the total time even though it has an array of online properties to draw in users including Google Search, Gmail, YouTube, Google News



and others.

If Facebook is the online destination where your customers are spending the majority of their time on the Web, then that is where you should be investing your time and marketing dollars as well. Don't expect your customers to come and find your business Web site, set up camp where your customers are already spending their time--Facebook.

Some users want to chat with

friends, or send messages. Some users want to watch video clips or share photos and videos with friends and family. Some users want to monitor status updates and location-based check-ins of their social network just to stay in touch with what is going on. Some users want to stay on top of breaking news. Facebook has emerged as the destination of choice because it offers all of the above in a single site.

Does your organization have a Facebook Page? It should. Posting status updates, links to relevant news, discussions about products and services, and other information on Facebook Page can replace the old-fashioned blog. The Facebook Page fosters a sense among users that they are more than just customers--they are a part of a community enabling them to engage and participate.

Has your organization set

up or embraced its Facebook Place? If your business is the type of business that customers can physically visit, then why not? Customers may already have "checked in" at your location, so the Facebook Place might already exist. You should claim ownership of the Facebook Place so you can configure and manage it and provide a means for customers to share their experiences with your business with the rest of their social network.

If your organization hasn't connected with Facebook yet, it is definitely time to take another look at the benefits and consider the fact that the customers your business needs to reach and attract are hanging out on Facebook.

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En México

Polémica sobre circunstancias en captura de “La Barbie”

MEXICO (AP) - La captura del presunto capo Edgar Valdez Villarreal, “La Barbie”, ha sido presentada por la Policía Federal como resultado de una operación de inteligencia de más de un año y con la intervención de agentes adiestrados en el extranjero, capacitados en incursiones en cualquier terreno y el manejo de todo tipo de armamento.

Sin embargo, un informe reveló que los policías federales que detuvieron a “La Barbie” ni siquiera sabían que se trataba de uno de los presuntos narcotraficantes más violentos y más buscados en México y Estados Unidos, lo cual ha comenzado a generar cuestionamientos sobre si realmente todo fue resultado de una bien armada operación de inteligencia.

El reporte oficial sobre la captura que la Policía Federal entregó a la Procuraduría General de la República, del cual AP obtuvo una copia, indicó que la detención, ocurrida el 30 de agosto, se realizó después de que un convoy de tres vehículos rebasó a alta velocidad a algunas patrullas que cuatro kilómetros adelante les dieron alcance y pidieron a sus ocupantes que descendieran. “Les indicamos que bajaran del vehículo, descendiendo del primero de ellos una persona del sexo masculino,



En esta foto tomada el 31 de agosto del 2010, Edgar Valdez Villarreal, alias ‘La Barbie’, es presentado a la prensa por policías federales en la Ciudad de Mexico. (Foto AP/Alexandre Meneghini/Archivo)

que vestía playera tipo polo de color verde y pantalón de mezclilla de color azul, de tez blanca, de quien ahora sabemos se trata de Edgar Valdez Villarreal, alias ‘La Barbie’”, señaló el parte policial.

El reporte fue publicado originalmente por algunos diarios mexicanos, como El Universal, que en su nota principal del jueves tituló: “No fue un operativo: ‘La Barbie’ se entregó” y cuestionó que la captura haya sido producto de más de un año de investigaciones de inteligencia.

No obstante, en declaraciones hechas a la cadena Televisa, el embajador de Estados Unidos, Carlos Pascual, dijo

que estaba “absolutamente convencido” de que el arresto fue resultado de un trabajo largo y bien enfocado de la policía mexicana.

“Siguieron el caso por mucho tiempo y finalmente tuvieron el éxito de capturar a la Barbie, y capturarlo, creo que es importante, vivo,

porque en ese sentido da mucha oportunidad de seguir explotando la información que tenga y usarlo para ir contra otros narcotraficantes”, expresó.

Valdez, de 37 años, enfrenta cargos en tres estados de Estados Unidos por presunto tráfico de toneladas de cocaína. Originario de Laredo, Estados Unidos, “La Barbie” permanece en prisión preventiva mientras se amplían las investigaciones en su contra. Como ciudadano estadounidense que vive de manera ilegal en México, podría ser deportado a Estados Unidos o enfrentar un proceso en México por narcotráfico. Las autoridades mexicanas dicen que podría ser responsable de decenas de asesinatos.

Brasil: detenido gobernador amazónico por corrupción

BRASILIA (AP) - La policía detuvo el viernes al gobernador del estado amazónico de Amapá, en el norte de Brasil, junto a varios alcaldes, funcionarios públicos y empresarios por su posible participación en un esquema de corrupción en que habrían desviado recursos públicos destinados a la educación, informaron las autoridades.

La policía federal dijo que el

gobernador Pedro Paulo Dias de Carvalho, de 51 años, figura en el esquema de corrupción, revelado en una investigación iniciada en agosto de 2009 con apoyo del Banco Central y el organismo tributario.

“El gobernador fue aprehendido por la policía en su casa mientras los agentes realizaban tareas de búsqueda y recolección de información antes de conducirlo a la detención”, explicó un

portavoz de la policía federal, quien no se identificó por política de la institución.

El gobernador y los demás detenidos son investigados por los delitos de corrupción activa y pasiva, peculado, ocultación de bienes y valores, lavado de dinero y fraude en licitaciones, entre otros delitos.

Dias de Carvalho asumió el cargo en abril de este año cuando el gobernador Waldez Goes renunció al puesto para disputar un escaño en el Senado. Desde 2002 fungía como vicegobernador junto a Goes y pretendía reelegirse en los comicios de octubre. La oficina de prensa del gobierno estatal de Amapá declinó pronunciarse.

El ex gobernador Goes fue detenido también bajo sospechas de participar en el esquema, además de otras 16 personas, que deben ser transferidas a la sede de la policía federal en Brasilia. La policía confirmó que con los 18 arrestos se completaron todas las órdenes de detención emitidas por la justicia en la investigación del caso.

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Lider cubano Fidel Castro asegura que lo mal interpretaron sobre modelo cubano

LA HABANA (AP) - El ex presidente Fidel Castro aseguró que fue malinterpretado cuando le dijo a un periodista estadounidense que “el modelo cubano” no servía.

Castro leyó un extenso mensaje el viernes sobre la reacción ocasionada en todo el mundo por la publicación de palabras suyas por parte Jeffrey Goldberg, redactor de la revista The Atlantic, quien se reunió con el ex gobernante tres veces el mes pasado para una serie de entrevistas.

“Se lo expresé sin amargura ni preocupación. Me divierto ahora al ver como él lo interpretó al pie de la letra”, aseguró Castro, quien ahora explicó que sus palabras estaban llenas de ironía y quisieron decir “exactamente

lo contrario” de lo que se interpretó

Castro, de 84 años de edad, encabezó en la Universidad de La Habana la presentación de segundo libro suyo de memorias sobre la guerrilla, y aunque no hubo acceso a la prensa extranjera, su mensaje fue transmitido por la televisión cubana.

Según lo publicado, Goldberg dijo que le preguntó a Castro si aún valía la pena intentar exportar el sistema de la isla a otros países y el ex mandatario le respondió: “El modelo cubano ya ni siquiera funciona para nosotros”.

Goldberg publicó el miércoles, en inglés, este extracto sin mayores detalles en el blog que escribe dentro del sitio de la revista.

Las reacciones a lo publicado



Una mujer pasa caminando al lado de un viejo automóvil estacionado en La Habana, Cuba, el jueves 9 de septiembre del 2010. (AP Foto/Javier Galeano)

fueron inmediatas abriendo especulaciones de todo tipo sobre qué quería decir exactamente el líder. Castro ahora explicó que con lo

dicho, trataba desestimar la suposición implícita en la pregunta sobre que Cuba había intentado “exportar” su modelo.

No obstante, el ex mandatario manifestó que “sigo pensando que Goldberg es un gran periodista... no inventa frases, las transfiere y las interpreta”.

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